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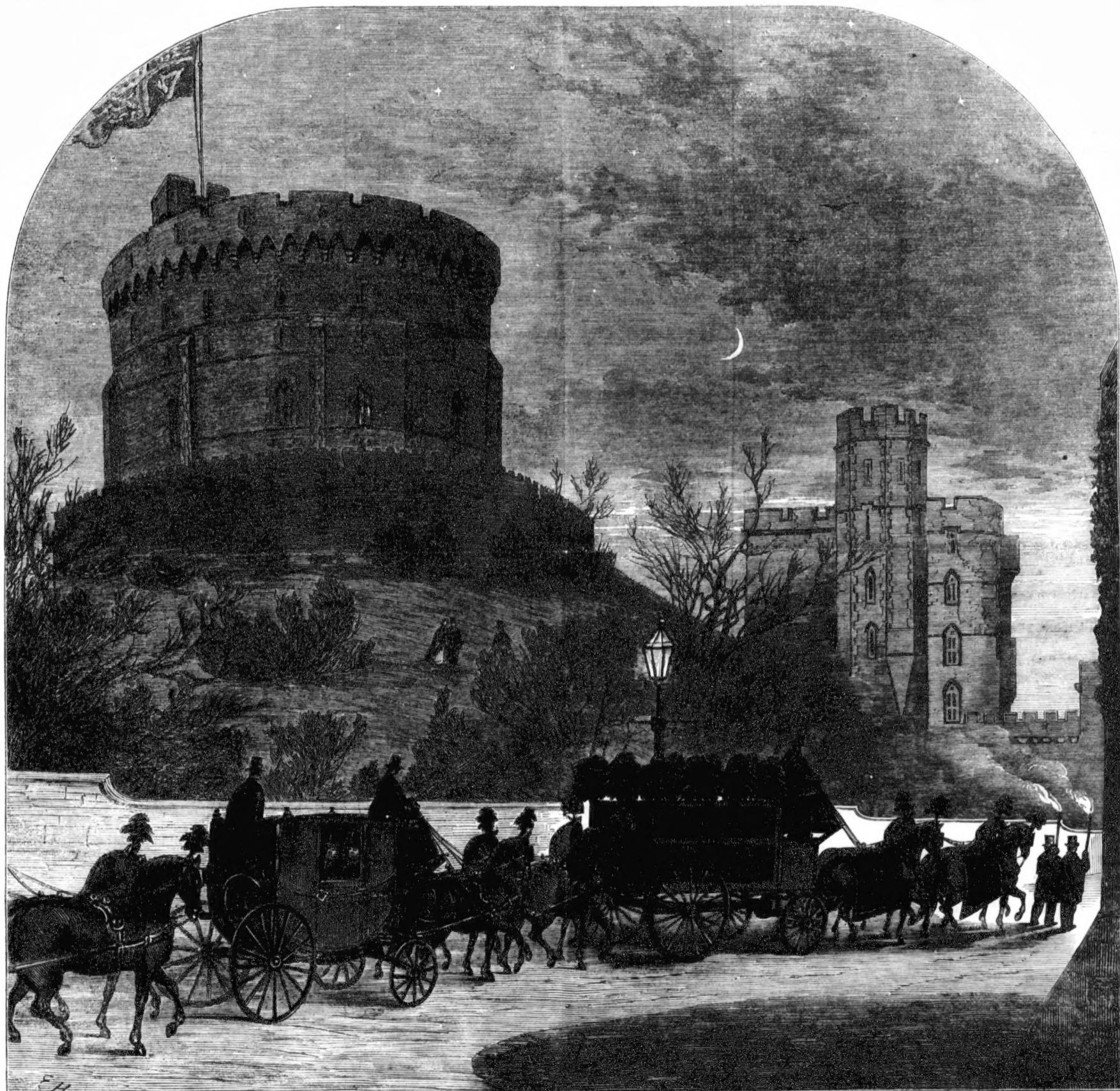
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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE oracle has spoken at last. Mr. Bright, summoned to appear before his constituents at Birmingham, has told us not only what he thinks about the American War and the present position of the manufacturing population of Lancashire, but also why he abstained from speaking on these subjects before. It was on the latter point in particular that people were anxious to hear Mr. Bright explain himself. After stating that he had advised the Government long ago to take measures for promoting the cultivation of cotton in India, and that it

was chiefly in consequence of his advice having been neglected that we had been left dependent on America for the great bulk of our supply, he proceeded to give a more intelligible reason for having kept silence in reference to a national calamity which neither he nor any one else had foreseen, and which demanded some attention from him above all men in the country, because it immediately affected the very interest which he claims to represent. It appears that the true reason why Mr. Bright has abstained from expressing any opinion to

the British public in reference to the affairs of that Republic which, if democracy could ensure peace, would not now be at war, is, that we showed an inclination to quarrel with the American Government about the "Trent" affair, or, as Mr. Bright put it to the meeting at Birmingham, "You wished to go to war because an American captain stopped an English vessel without being authorised to do so, and took two American subjects prisoners." This is not exactly true. No one wished to go to war when the American Government disavowed the action of Captain Wilkes and gave up the captured men; and no one would have spoken of war had it not been



REMOVAL OF THE PRINCE CONSORT'S REMAINS TO THE NEW MAUSOLEUM AT FROGMORE.

inferred from the honours paid to him by his countrymen that his conduct was approved of, and had not the American Government shown considerable hesitation as to what course it should adopt.

As to the actual struggle between the Northern and Southern States, which is assuming every day a more barbarous character, any one who did not know that Mr. Bright was a member of the Peace Society might fancy he would be opposed to its continuance, and earnestly desirous that some plan of conciliation should be devised. But once rouse a member of the Peace Society by touching some favourite crotchet and there is no one so ferocious, and, accordingly, nothing will satisfy Mr. Bright but the entire subjugation of the South. As to the cause of the war, Mr. Bright, of course, maintains that it all turns upon slavery, and in support of this opinion quotes the names of Count Cavour (who, by-the-way, is dead), Victor Hugo, Kossuth, and Garibaldi. As for Victor Hugo, he commenced his career as a Royalist, and one of his first lyrics was written in honour of the coronation of Charles X. Then he became an ardent worshipper of Napoleon, and published his *Ode to the Column of the Place Vendôme* and his poem on the "Two Islands" (Elba and Corsica), of which he says that God

*Les fit si terribles peut-être
Pour que Bonaparte y put naître
Et Napoléon y mourir.*

Finally, after doing all in his power to glorify the Napoleonic tradition, he became a democratic and socialistic Republican; and now that he has been exiled by a member of the Napoleon family we may be sure that he will be opposed to Napoleonism to the end. However great he may be as a poet, his opinions on the American or any other political question are only of value from the language in which they may be expressed.

With regard to Kossuth, the Austrians will tell us that the insurrection which he headed in Hungary had for its object the preservation of aristocratic privileges and of serfdom. Of course, this is untrue; but it is no more untrue than that the Southern Americans are fighting for the right of holding slaves, that right having not, until quite lately, been at all called in question, and then only as a political manoeuvre.

Perhaps it is thought that Garibaldi is a good authority on the American question. On the Roman question he undoubtedly is; but as to the object with which the Northern Americans are fighting, we must say we prefer to listen to the words of the President of the United States. "I have no purpose," said Mr. Lincoln in March, 1861, "directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists;" and, eighteen months afterwards, he made this declaration: "I would save the Union; I would save it in the shortest way. If there be those who would not save the Union unless they could save slavery, I do not agree with them. If there be those who would not save the Union unless they could at the same time destroy slavery, I do not agree with them. My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or destroy slavery."

These passages, the former from a speech, the latter from a letter of Mr. Lincoln, were quoted by Mr. Scholefield, Mr. Bright's colleague in the representation of Birmingham, at the Birmingham meeting. Mr. Bright was annoyed, and said that for nine years previous Mr. Scholefield had treated him as a brother, and so on; and, in truth, Mr. Scholefield did not behave precisely in a fraternal manner in taking the wind out of Mr. Bright's sails on this occasion. But Mr. Scholefield had a duty to perform to his constituents and to the people of England. He commenced the business of the meeting by telling the plain truth on the American question; and, foreseeing that Mr. Bright would make one of his usual attacks on our system of national defence, informed the latter, amid general applause, that he, for his part, though in favour of strict economy in the State expenditure, was opposed to any such reduction in the naval and military estimates as would leave the country unable to maintain its interests and honour at home and abroad. After this Mr. Bright simply confined himself to calling our soldiers names. "The things which interested me most at Gibraltar," he said, "were the monkeys on the top, except those whom I found below, and there were a great many living on English taxes."

The Greek question continues to occupy a great deal of attention in England, and very probably will occupy all Europe before long. There is a general impression that the English Government have testified a wish to give up the Ionian Islands, and some newspapers say that they have already offered them to Greece—apparently without reflecting that England, according to international law, has no more right to offer them to Greece than to Spain or Sweden, and that either Spain or Sweden would have quite as much right as Greece to accept them. Certain journals at home and abroad are accustomed to speak of the occupation of the Ionian Islands as though it was the result of some bloody invasion. They apparently believe that until 1815 there was a kingdom of Greece, which we contrived, through the agency of the perfidious Lord Castlereagh, to dismember at the Congress of Vienna, and that we have ever since ruled our portion of Greek territory by the sword—which, of course, explains the unanimity of the Greeks of the mainland in desiring to have an English Prince for their Sovereign.

Apart from treaty obligations, every one is of course aware that the Ionians really desire to be annexed to Greece, and that Greece desires the annexation; and, therefore, that England cannot well oppose it from the moment it becomes certain that Greece can exist by herself as an independent Power. But the Ionian Islands were placed under our protectorate at a time when to annex them to Greece would have been to give them up to Turkey, and when to leave them

independent would have been to place them at the mercy of the first strong Power that might have thought fit to seize upon them in a general war. Whether we have done our duty or not as protectors of these islands is a question to be decided, not by political theorists but by men of common sense who happen to have visited them and to have visited the kingdom of Greece also. Travellers of various nations have been able to make the comparison, and all have been struck by the superior advantages enjoyed by the Ionians. Of course these advantages will not console the Ionians for not forming part of an independent Greek State; but it is at least certain that the English took a considerable part in promoting the formation of the very Greek State to which the Ionians wish to unite themselves, and it is not very likely that, when the proper moment arrives, we shall refuse to let them be joined to what they are pleased to consider their parent country. Hitherto, however, we have seen no official announcement stating distinctly that the Ionian Islands are to be given up; nor is it likely that any such announcement will be made until it is known what the future form of the Greek Government is to be.

REMOVAL OF THE REMAINS OF PRINCE ALBERT TO FROGMORE.

THE mortal remains of the revered Prince Consort were privately removed early in the morning of the 18th inst. from the entrance of the Royal vault in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, where they had been temporarily deposited, and conveyed to the Royal mausoleum at Frogmore. At seven o'clock their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, and Prince Louis of Hesse, proceeded to the chapel, where were assembled the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor, the Rev. Lord Wriothesley Russell, Canon in residence; Viscount Sydney, Lord Chamberlain; Lieutenant-General the Hon. C. Grey, Colonel the Hon. Sir C. B. Phipps, and Colonel Biddulph. Mr. Lolein and Mr. Mayot, the valets to the Prince Consort also attended.

The procession left the chapel for Frogmore shortly after, and on arriving at the Royal mausoleum the coffin was placed in a sarcophagus and covered with a massive stone, in the presence of the Prince and the gentlemen who had the privilege of being present on this sad occasion, when the earthly remains of the best of fathers and masters were consigned to their final resting-place. His Royal Highness and the gentlemen then returned to the castle. The plaster-cast of the recumbent statue of the Prince Consort, now being executed by Baron Marochetti in marble, was then placed on the sarcophagus.

At one o'clock in the afternoon her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, walked from Frogmore House without any attendants, to the Royal mausoleum, near to which were assembled the members of the Royal household immediately in attendance on the Queen and Royal family, and a few persons who had been honoured with invitations to be present. The Dean of Windsor, when her Majesty, the Royal family, and others had taken their places, read a selection from the Holy Scriptures and offered a short prayer appropriate to the melancholy occasion. The Queen and Royal family, after placing wreaths on the foot of the tomb, retired. Her Majesty, though much overwhelmed with grief, has been enabled to bear the trying events of these last days without any additional injury to her health. The whole of the household were afterwards permitted by her Majesty to visit the mausoleum.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN AMERICA.—"When I was in the Consulate at New Orleans, a tall and well-dressed but not prepossessing-looking man entered to speak to Mr. Mure on business, and was introduced to me at his own request. His name was mentioned incidentally to-night, and I heard a passage in his life not of an agreeable character, to say the least of it. A good many years ago there was a ball at New Orleans, at which this gentleman was present; he paid particular attention to a lady, who, however, preferred the society of one of the company, and in the course of the evening an altercation occurred respecting an engagement to dance, in which violent language was exchanged, and a push or blow given by the favoured partner to his rival, who left the room, and, as is stated, proceeded to a cutter's shop, where he procured a powerful dagger-knife. Armed with this, he returned, and sent in a message to the gentleman with whom he had quarrelled. Suspecting nothing, the latter came into the antechamber, the assassin rushed upon him, stabbed him to the heart, and left him weltering in his blood. Another version of the story was that he waited for his victim till he came into the cloakroom, and struck him as he was in the act of putting on his overcoat. After a long delay the criminal was tried. The defence put forward on his behalf was that he had seized a knife in the heat of the moment when the quarrel took place, and had slain his adversary in a moment of passion; but evidence, as I understand, went strongly to prove that a considerable interval elapsed between the time of the dispute and the commission of the murder. The prisoner had the assistance of able and ingenuous counsel; he was acquitted. His acquittal was mainly due to the judicious disposition of a large sum of money; each juror, when he retired to dinner previous to consulting over his verdict, was enabled to find the sum of 1000 dollars under the plate; nor was it clear that the Judge and Sheriff had not participated in the bounty; in fact I heard a dispute as to the exact amount which, it is supposed, the murderer had to pay. He now occupies, under the Confederate Government, the post at New Orleans which he lately held as representative of the Government of the United States."—*Russell's Diary, North and South.*

PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.—Soon afterwards there entered, with a shambling, loose, irregular, almost unsteady gait, a tall, lank, lean man, considerably over six feet in height, with stooping shoulders, long pendulous arms, terminating in hands of extraordinary dimensions, which, however, were far exceeded in proportion by his feet. He was dressed in an ill-fitting, wrinkled suit of black, which put one in mind of an undertaker's uniform at a funeral; round his neck a rope of black silk was knotted in a large bulb, with flying ends projecting beyond the collar of his coat; his turned-down shirt-collar disclosed a sinewy, muscular, yellow neck; and above that, nestling in a great black mass of hair, bristling and compact like a ruff of mourning pins, rose the strange quaint face and head, covered with its thatch of wild Republican hair, of President Lincoln. The impression produced by the size of his extremities, and by his flapping and wide-projecting ears, may be removed by the appearance of kindness, sagacity, and the awkward bonhomie of his face. The mouth is absolutely prodigious; the lips, straggling and extending almost from one line of black beard to the other, are only kept in order by two deep furrows from the nostril to the chin; the nose itself—a prominent organ—stands out from the face with an inquiring, anxious air, as though it were sniffing for some good thing in the wind; the eyes—dark, full, and deeply set—are penetrating, but full of an expression which almost amounts to tenderness; and above them projects the shaggy brow, running into the small, hard frontal space, the development of which can scarcely be estimated accurately, owing to the irregular flock of thick hair carelessly brushed across it. One would say that, although the mouth was made to enjoy a joke, it could also utter the severest sentence which the head could dictate; but that Mr. Lincoln would be ever more willing to temper justice with mercy, and to enjoy what he considers the amenities of life, than to take a harsh view of men's nature and of the world, and to estimate things in an ascetic or Puritan spirit. A person who met Mr. Lincoln in the street would not take him to be what, according to the usages of European society, is called a "gentleman" and, indeed, since I came to the United States I have heard more disparaging allusions made by Americans to him on that account than I could have expected among simple Republicans, where all should be equal; but, at the same time, it would not be possible for the most indifferent observer to pass him in the street without notice.—*Russell's Diary, North and South.*

THE THRONE OF SWEDEN.—When General Bernadotte was proclaimed King of Sweden the principle was adopted that the male descendants of the new Monarch should alone be apt to reign, the females being excluded. As the present King, Charles XV., has by his marriage with Princess Wilhelmina-Frederica of Holland only one child, a daughter, Princess Louise, the crown at the King's death devolves to his brother Prince Oscar. A deputy of Calmar has now brought forward a proposition which, letters from Stockholm state, meets with considerable support in the four deliberative Chambers, and having no objection to permit the Prince to ascend the throne. This is infinitely injurious to the Prince's wife, but the same is equally so to the other members of the royal family. The royal and popular opposition are about equally balanced in the chamber.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Tuilleries on Saturday, at which it was settled that the French Chambers are to be summoned for the 12th of January.

The Paris journals mention the report that the French Government had demanded explanations at Madrid respecting the official statements made by the Spanish Government to the Cortes on the Mexican question, but that, satisfactory explanations having been given by Spain, the matter was of no special importance.

There is no other news of moment from Paris, but hosts of rumours, some of which are utterly absurd, and none worth repeating, were current.

ITALY.

The Italian Chambers were prorogued on Monday by Royal decree. A body of French and Italian troops have made an expedition on the Roman frontier and dispersed the remainder of Tristany's band of brigands.

The following telegram has been received from Turin, dated the 18th:—"The Italian Government respectfully declines further negotiation with France respecting the Roman question at present." This statement has been denied by some of the Paris papers, but again reiterated from Turin.

The *Official Journal of Naples*, speaking of the state of that province, says:—

The reduction of the bands of brigands, formerly numerous, but now few in number, proves the success of our troops. Brigandage is confined to a few localities. The spontaneous concurrence of the population, and their co-operation in the repression of brigandage, attest their unitarian aspirations. Statistic tables prove that public safety is better provided for, that crime has diminished by one-half, and that theft has almost ceased. It is untrue that arbitrary arrests of Bourbon partisans have been made. Before proceeding to arrest them the police authorities made inquiries concerning their conduct.

The *Official Journal* states, in conclusion, that the revenue arising from the town dues of the city of Naples is double what it was under the Bourbons.

AUSTRIA.

The Session of the Council of the Empire was closed on the 18th. In his speech from the throne the Emperor expressed satisfaction that the confidence he had placed in the nation by granting the Constitutions of Oct. 20 and Feb. 26 has been justified. His Majesty hoped that the blessings of peace would continue to exercise a beneficial influence, and said:—

Our resolute progress in the path of peace has powerfully increased confidence in Austria's strength, and has gained her the sympathy of other nations. The Reichsrath has proceeded firmly upon the solution of its task, and has already passed important measures. Basing the regulation of the Budget upon the principle that the resources of the country itself must supply its necessities, I am convinced that such a result will be brought about by an equal division of burdens. Commerce has already shown increased animation in consequence of the abolition of transit dues. The bill regulating the control of the Reichsrath over the national debt secures also the co-operation of the Legislature in supervising the expenditure. The new Bank Act has established the relative position of that institution to the State. The retrenchment of the expenditure has exercised a favourable influence upon the state of public affairs.

His Majesty requested the members upon their return home to promulgate among their constituents constitutional principles, with a view to their better accomplishment.

PRUSSIA.

The Parliamentary Session of Prussia will open, it is believed, on the 10th of January. The King will not, it is thought, open the Session in person, but will depute the task to Count Bismarck. The Government intends, it is said, to confine itself to calling on the Chambers to approve of the expenses incurred in 1862 over and above the last Budget regularly voted—that of 1861. As far as regards the constitutional question, the Ministry will not make any concessions, but will present to the Chamber the War Budget of 1863, under a form which will involve the reduction of the military service to two years. The Prussian press persecutions proceed meantime in full force. The Breslau journals have received police notification to the effect that every copy of a paper containing national appeals for subscriptions or lists of committees, &c., for the relief of political victims, will be immediately seized.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Government has issued a decree removing all confiscations upon the property of well-disposed exiles who have returned to their country. Notwithstanding this and other measures favourable to the Poles, a strong spirit of dissatisfaction is continually manifesting itself, an instance of which is reported from Warsaw, where it is said the existence of a secret central committee has been discovered, and that many arrests have been made.

THE CAUCASUS.

A letter from Soukum-Kale of the 20th ult. says:—"The entire population of the great southern chain of the Caucasus are now in full revolt. An attack was recently made on the Stanitzas (Cossacks), when a large amount of plunder was taken by the mountaineers and some of the wealthiest members of the tribe as hostages. The Stanitzas of Psemenstaco have been almost cut off to a man, and the district between the Kuban and the Laba has declared itself independent. The inhabitants, after having received a large sum in roubles, liberated the prisoners they had taken. Another body of mountaineers attacked the Stanitzas at Sevastopolskai, near Dakho, and after a desperate struggle, in which a large number of persons were killed, the mountaineers brought away with them a number of prisoners and a great quantity of cattle. The approach of the severe period of the winter preventing the advance of the Russian troops is much in favour of the mountaineers.

DENMARK.

The Upper Chamber of the Danish Reichsrath has drawn up an address to the King requesting him to maintain the legally-existing common institutions of Denmark and Schleswig, as a means of binding closely together the different parts of the kingdom and affording them a guarantee of constitutional liberty. The address further recommends the Government to settle the affairs of Holstein by fulfilling the obligations of the King towards the Federal Diet, without, however, endangering the freedom of connection between the other parts of the kingdom. The address declares that the Danish nation applauds the intention to grant more liberty to Schleswig as soon as the affairs of Holstein shall be entirely settled, but that the nation also expects that nothing should be done which might weaken the connection between the kingdom and Schleswig. It concludes with an assurance that the Chamber will support the present and any other Ministry which shall energetically pursue the programme which it has thus sketched out.

KARL BLIND IN GERMANY.—The German journals relate that Karl Blind, the Democratic leader, having returned for a time to his native country after thirteen years of exile, was enthusiastically received everywhere. His return had been rendered possible through the general amnesty recently proclaimed in Baden. Owing to the present political circumstances in Prussia he had to pass incognito through the dominions of William I. Thence going to the south, he made the tour round Germany, through Frankfort, Hesse, Baden, Wurtemburg, Bavaria, Hanover, Hamburg, and so forth, holding political consultations everywhere with friends and associates. At a large number of places he was fêted by great assemblies, the most eminent men of the different popular parties addressing him with speeches of welcome. At Stuttgart the members of the Second Chamber resident there gave him a banquet, in which the most influential leaders, together with men distinguished in science and literature, took part. At Munich he was greeted by two assemblies, the one consisting of the champions of the Bavarian party of progress, the other of citizens, savans, students, artists, and workmen. The German journals publish Karl Blind's speeches, which, characterised as they are by an unusual boldness of tone, were received with stormy applause. The papers add that one of his first acts in Baden was to visit the graves of those political friends who had fallen in battle or had been shot by the courts martial instituted in 1815 by the then Prince, now King of Prussia. The memory of these friends is still to have a strong influence.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

GENERAL NEWS.

The main body of General Burnside's army crossed the Rappahannock on the 12th inst. and occupied the south side of the river and Fredericksburg. The Confederates had two strong lines of batteries, the first one mile in the rear of Fredericksburg and the second one mile in the rear of the first. The Confederates opened fire on the 12th from their first line of batteries upon the Federals who were in Fredericksburg, and upon those who were crossing the river, but the Federal batteries along the banks of the river silenced them in half an hour. The Confederates had concentrated their forces, and it was supposed that, unless the Confederates retreat a decisive battle would be fought. General Siegel had marched to join General Burnside, and it was supposed that he had reached his destination. The Federal losses had been slight.

The cold was very severe in Virginia, and everything was frozen. Several sentinels had been frozen to death at their posts, and the sufferings of the army generally were reported to be very severe. The Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson had joined General Lee at Fredericksburg. It was rumoured that the Confederate cavalry, under General Stuart, had been on the north side of the Rappahannock, moving between the Federal forces of Generals Burnside and Siegel.

In the House of Representatives a resolution condemning President Lincoln's emancipation proclamation as unconstitutional and unauthorized had been laid on the table by a vote of 95 to 47. Another resolution granting an indemnity to the President and all officials for infractions of the Constitution had been passed.

The Committee of Ways and Means had introduced a bill into Congress, providing for an issue of 1,000,000,000 dols. in bonds, similar in amount and form to those authorised by the Act of February, 1862, with the interest payable in United States' lawful money, and the principal payable in twenty years in gold or silver coin of the United States; also, the issue of legal tender notes, the amount not to exceed, with those already authorised, 500,000,000 dols., in order to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to call in all 5.20 and 7.30 Treasury bonds now in circulation, and to cancel them, and authorising the Secretary to redeem legal tender notes held as loans and bearing interest. The committee had further proposed that the law authorising the payment of interest on United States' bonds in gold should be repealed. The bill aims at the virtual suppression of the banks, by imposing a tax of 50 per cent upon all their circulation over one-half of the amount of their capital paid in.

The steamer Alabama had captured and burned the ship Starbuck in lat. 35.30, long. 65; also the ship T. B. Walis, from Calcutta, in lat. 28.30, long. 66. The Alabama arrived at Martinique on the 17th ult., and landed the crews of the captured vessels. The Federal steamer San Jacinto arrived at Martinique the same afternoon, and waited outside the harbour for the Alabama. The Alabama, however, escaped from Martinique on the 18th.

FEDERAL DEFEAT IN TENNESSEE.

In Tennessee the Federals have suffered defeat at Hartsville. A despatch, dated Nashville, Dec. 7, says:—

Our arms are again disgraced. The thirty-ninth brigade, Dumont's division, consisting of the 104th Illinois, Colonel Moore, commanding brigade; the 106th Ohio, Colonel Lafe; the 108th Ohio, Colonel Limberg; Nicklin's battery, and a small detachment of the 2nd Indiana Cavalry were surprised at daylight this morning at Hartsville, by Morgan, commanding three regiments of cavalry and two of infantry. After fighting an hour and a quarter our forces surrendered, and the enemy burnt our camp, capturing nearly all the brigade, and the teams, and burning what they could not carry away. Two guns of Nicklin's battery were also captured. Our loss was between fifty and sixty killed and wounded, who were left on the field. The rebel loss is not reported. The gallant Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, of the 2nd Indiana Cavalry, and Colonel Moore were among the captives. Major Hill, of the 2nd Indiana Cavalry, was wounded, but not dangerously. He says half of our infantry fought well, but the other half soon broke. Colonel Harlin's and Colonel Miller's brigades were sent in pursuit, but the enemy had forded Cumberland River and were out of reach. A few shells sent after them caused a rapid retreat. Major Hill denied that the camp was surprised. If so the affair was more disgraceful to us, as Hartsville was a strong position. On Thursday a Lieutenant-Colonel of Davis's division was captured while skirmishing. Two regimental Quartermasters of Palmer's division were also captured while foraging. The dates are not reported. Thirteen wagons with mules, on a foraging expedition, were captured on Saturday. A deserter from Murfreesborough reports Cheatham and Breckinridge there with 15,000 men; Buckner at Shelbyville; Kirby Smith sick at Manchester. General Joe Johnson was certainly at Murfreesborough on Saturday. Morgan attacked General Fry in the afternoon at Gallatin, but was repulsed with heavy loss. General Fry has been reinforced, and is now pursuing the enemy closely. General Buell and staff arrived in Nashville on Sunday morning.

FEDERAL SUCCESS IN ARKANSAS.

A battle has taken place at Crawfordsville, Arkansas, and is thus reported:—

Battle-field, near Fayetteville, Arkansas, Dec. 8. General Herron's forces, while en route to reinforce General Blunt, met the enemy yesterday on Crawford's Prairie, ten miles south of Fayetteville, and won a decisive victory. The enemy were 24,000 strong, divided into four divisions, under Generals Parsons, Marmaduke, and Rains, all under General Hindman, and embraced the flower of the rebel trans-Mississippi army, well supplied with eighteen pieces of artillery. The enemy flanked General Blunt's position at Cave-hill, and made a sudden attack on General Herron's forces to prevent them from uniting with General Blunt. General Herron's forces consisted of the 14th and 31st Illinois, 19th and 20th Iowa, 26th Indiana, 20th Wisconsin, and a battalion or two of cavalry—in all 6500 or 7000 men and 24 pieces of artillery. The battle raged from 10 a.m. until dark, and was desperately fought throughout. Our artillery drove the rebels from two strong positions and kept their overwhelming numbers at bay. The 20th Wisconsin captured a rebel battery of four heavy guns, but were forced to abandon them under a murderous fire. The 19th Iowa also took the same battery, and fought most desperately, but were also obliged to yield it. Almost every regiment distinguished itself. About four o'clock General Blunt arrived from Cave-hill with 5000 men and a strong force of artillery, and attacked the rebels in the rear. The rebels made desperate efforts to capture his batteries, but were repulsed with terrible slaughter. We held the whole field at dark, and before nine o'clock that night the entire rebel force were in full retreat over Boston Mountains. Our entire loss in killed and wounded was 600. The rebel loss was 1500 by their own admission. Several of the rebel officers were killed; among them Colonel Stein, commanding a brigade, and formerly a Brigadier of the Missouri State Guard. Only a few prisoners were taken. We captured four caissons filled with ammunition. Lieutenant-Colonel McFarland, of the 19th Iowa Regiment, was the only field-officer killed on our side. Major Hubbard, of the 1st Missouri Cavalry, was taken prisoner.

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE.

A mass of diplomatic correspondence has been laid before Congress, of which the following is an abstract of those portions referring to this country:—

In June Mr. Adams writes that the darling desire of the governing classes, that America may be divided, though subdued in expression by events, remains as strong as ever.

Mr. Adams writes in October that he has had an interview with Earl Russell, in which, referring to Mr. Gladstone's speech, Earl Russell said it was not for him to disavow anything on the part of Mr. Gladstone, but that Mr. Gladstone had no idea in saying what he had that there was serious intention to justify any inferences of a disposition of the Government to adopt a new policy. Earl Russell said, as guardedly as possible, that Lord Palmerston and the other members of the Cabinet regretted Mr. Gladstone's speech, but it was still their intention to adhere to perfect neutrality, and let the struggle come to its natural end without the smallest interference, direct or otherwise. Earl Russell, however, could not say what circumstances might happen from month to month in the future.

Mr. Seward's recent communications to Mr. Adams are summarised thus:—

In June Mr. Seward writes that a list of purchases made for the Confederates in England, which list had fallen into the hands of the Federals, shows that the complaints made to Earl Russell fall short of the real abuses of neutrality committed in England in the very face of the British Government. "The revolution," says Mr. Seward, "is now approaching its end, and it is just at this moment proof becomes irresistible that if it had succeeded its success would have been due to the assistance derived from the English people." Mr. Seward says the President thinks it desirable that the English Government should consider before the

war closes what are likely to be the sentiments of England and America towards each other after its termination.

In August Mr. Seward writes that a war with England could not fail to unite North and South.

In November Mr. Seward writes that while European parties are more hostile than ever to America, America herself is stronger to resist intervention than at any former period. Intervention would only afford an additional motive for America to sustain her resolution to remain united. Less than three years ago all England showed itself desirous of friendship with America, and a similar desire may before long recur.

On the 3rd (same month) Mr. Seward states that the President is compelled to regard the destruction of ships by the Alabama as having been made by British subjects in violation of the law of nations. "It is presumed," says Mr. Seward, "you have already brought the subject before the British Government in that light. Legal proofs to support indemnity claims will be collected and transmitted as soon as possible."

A despatch from Mr. Seward to Mr. Dayton is also published, stating that America has a right to insist that France shall not make use of the war she is carrying on in Mexico to raise an anti-Republican or anti-American Government, or maintain such Government in power. France having disclaimed such designs, America is bound to wait, and not anticipate their execution.

A despatch from Mr. Clay, in Russia, to Mr. Seward, dated January last, urges him to offer to the Canadians union with America and India, and to send men and money into Ireland to stir up revolt. "Vengeance will sooner or later overtake England, the perfidious aristocrat," says Mr. Clay.

THE SUBSCRIPTION FOR LANCASHIRE.

The subscription for the unemployed operatives in Lancashire was going on vigorously in New York and throughout the country. Large sums in money and provisions were being subscribed; indeed, whatever grumblers may say, or to whatever motives the movement may be ascribed, there seems an earnestness in the American mind on this matter which cannot fail to awaken a sympathetic chord on this side of the water. The International Relief Committee had issued the following appeal:—

The blow struck at our national existence has fallen heavily upon the operatives of Europe, and it is announced to us that in England there is unusual suffering and a year of scarcity. "The agony of Lancashire," says the London *Times*, "is every day becoming more acute, and before the winter is ended the sufferings of the people will prove the greatest national trial that we have had since the Irish famine." When the Irish famine prevailed in 1847 the American people, from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, gladly gave of their abundance; our Government furnished transportation for the food; the British Government afforded facilities for its distribution; and the Queen, whose virtues fully illustrate her words, recognised the friendliness of the act. Again we are called upon in the name of humanity to relieve men, women, and children who are compelled, without fault of their own, to face a more fearful enemy than war. The appeal comes to those to whom God, in his Providence, has been most bountiful. Amid all the trials He has permitted us to meet in the defence of national unity and constitutional freedom, unsatisfied hunger has had no place; and, despite the withdrawal of an army of citizens to protect the liberties of the Republic, the labours of those who remained have been so plentifully bled that America is able, from her surplus, to export largely to other countries. Let us not be unmindful at this moment of the responsibilities imposed upon us by the unfeignedness of the Ruler of Nations, nor permit our sorrows and burdens to lead us to forget or to undervalue the peculiar duties we owe to our people. Our agricultural efforts, extended over a wide and fertile territory, as yet thinly populated, have made our land one of the granaries to which the nations of Europe that subsist chiefly by manufactures now look for food; and the operatives of Lancashire, temporarily deprived of American cotton, have more than ever occasion for American corn. Let that corn be forwarded with the generosity that becomes a people who have undergone the greatest trial that can befall a nation and who know the value of sympathy promptly tendered in the moment of misfortune. Let us show our gratitude to Providence for all its mercies by recognising the claims of Christian brotherhood, and hasten to relieve the want whose sharp cry comes to us across the ocean. The Homestead Act of Congress, which gives to each settler in our Western territories, without regard to his nationality, 160 acres of the public land, offers to every foreigner a welcome and a home; but a threatening winter of suffering demands instant relief, and reminds us of the ancient proverb, "He gives twice who gives quickly." There is reason to believe, from significant indications, not alone in New York but throughout the country, that the people need no urging to activity in this cause, but rather wait with impatience the necessary organisation for the convenient transmission of their gifts. To this end the undersigned, who have been appointed by the citizens of New York to act in concert with similar bodies, urgently recommend the citizens of every city, town, and village throughout the Union to call public meetings and appoint committees, to collect and remit moneys and food to committees on the seaboard; and they respectfully ask the clergy of all denominations at once to bring the subject before their congregations, and to take up collections, that all, according to their ability, may unite in this national and truly Christian work. They confidently believe that the railroad companies and the owners of vessels on the lakes, whose prosperity has been of late largely augmented by the increase of our agricultural products, will cheerfully furnish gratuitous transportation for all donations of food; and that our enterprising shipowners will exhibit the like liberality in furnishing freight-room to Europe. They anticipate ready assistance from the country at large; but they rely especially upon our food-producing States for prompt and generous contributions from the grain accumulated on their hands. The undersigned have already received, as will appear by the report of their treasurer, large donations, which they hail as the earnest of those to come, and they repeat with pleasure the announcement that by the liberality of Messrs. N. L. and G. Griswold a new ship of 1800 tons burthen has been placed at their disposal. They propose to transmit the provisions they shall receive and those which they may purchase as rapidly and economically as possible, commencing the work without delay, and making such arrangements with persons of probity in Great Britain as shall ensure their immediate and judicious distribution.

A meeting had been held at the Produce Exchange for the relief of the distress in Lancashire. Speeches were made urging British and American philanthropy to meet half way, and build up a new temple of reconciliation, in which Americans and Britons could join hands once more and swear to be true to each other and to all principles of civil and religious liberty.

STATE OF AFFAIRS IN NEW YORK.

THE ice commenced in New York on the 8th. The canals froze up. Coal immediately advanced to 11 dols. a ton; this same coal sold last winter at 4 dols. 50c. What the poor will do Heaven alone knows. We expect much more misery than there is now. People are dying of starvation here. What of that? We are humiliating and shaming the aristocracy of England by sending immense sums of money abroad to feed English operatives. It is a grand political move. We expect to see the poor of England rise up and demand that war shall be declared against the Southern States. There was never such a chance of advertising before among our merchants. A. T. Stewart will raise his 10,000 dols. to go to England easy. He has 500 clerks. They average 10 dols. a week salary. Next summer we will make them all go to the country and spend two weeks, and deduct their salary while they are gone. That is the way he will raise the sum to feed the English operatives. It is all the rage now to send money to save the starving English. Clergymen call upon their congregations to act up to their Christian profession. "Do good to those that despise you." "Put coals upon the enemy's head by doing him a kindness." "These English hate us as they do the devil; let us in return pray for them, open our purses and send them money to buy potatoes to keep them from starving. The plate will now go round." Young girls at parties and at the opera shout out to each other, "Miss Jones, I see by the newspapers that your pa gave them starving Englishmen 2000 dols.; my pa would not give but 1000 dols., because he thought they were so mean in the Trent business." But the screws are turning and times are tightening, for if there is abundance of paper money there is lack of work now, and everything is up to famine prices. The most fearless capitalist has become scared since the President's Message, and the statement of Chase that we owe 1200 million dols., and for aught that he knows 2500 millions. All financial schemes are humbug now. They are of no use; they are straws pitched into the Niagara waters above the cataract; they will be submerged in the mighty stream of events that are occurring. More Butlers and more bloodshed are in store for us. There is no help for it."—*Manhattan, in the Standard.*

M. ANSELME PETETIN, the new director of the Imperial printing-office in Paris, has prohibited the women employed in that establishment from wearing crinoline.

THE FRENCH PRESS ON ENGLAND'S SURRENDER

OF THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

THE determination ascribed to the English Government to give up the Ionian Isles to the kingdom of Greece calls forth interminable commentaries from the Paris journals. It is above all the motives of that decision which they endeavour to fathom; and, as disinterestedness or even intelligent abdication are very unusual matters in politics, the grand object of our contemporaries appears to be to discover the secret thoughts which may have guided the English Cabinet in its determination, or the conditions which it may intend to impose for the realisation of its design. The *Opinion Nationale* having expressed the idea that England was giving everything and demanding nothing in return, because that policy was not only the most noble but the most adroit, the *Paris* attacks that opinion in strong language. It says:—

The cession by England of the Ionian Islands to Greece is one of those unexpected acts which throw political minds into a profound astonishment. One hesitates involuntarily to believe in such a resolution, and never was more appropriately quoted the line:—

Le vrai peut quelquefois être pas vraisemblable.

But to continue to doubt is no longer possible. England has really decided on abandoning the protectorate conferred on her by the Convention of 1815, as well as the government which she had taken on herself to exercise at Corfu. We were the first to applaud that resolution; and we do not now in any way seek to diminish our eulogiums. But it is not merely approbation which the conduct of the English Ministry meets with in several journals, it is enthusiasm and rapture, and in that chorus of praises the *Opinion Nationale* performs its part in the warmest possible terms. "Such conduct," it exclaims, "cannot be too much admired. Lord Palmerston crowns a long political career by an act of great and noble policy. That policy which is so noble is at the same time the most adroit." Of all those epithets, the word adroit is in reality the only one true. Let us, in fact, exaggerate nothing, and remember what has been the position of England in the Ionian Isles during the last forty years. Being constantly opposed by popular feeling, and being the object of incessant protests on the part of the Ionian people, the British protectorate has never been in reality anything but a domination violently imposed and arbitrarily exercised. The Seven Islands seemed to have become the conquest of the English arms when they were in reality only a territory confided by a diplomatic act to the guardianship of Great Britain. On examining things more minutely, the cession now consented to is therefore only a restitution, and nothing more. Truly it is a loyal one, as Europa has never demanded it, nor never thought of requiring it; but the restitution is not a generous one, since there can be no generosity in restoring property not legitimately acquired. To be generous and noble, that restitution must involve a real loss to England, which this does not. The British government of Corfu had for a long time been looked upon in England as a heavy charge, from which successive Ministries have been often invited to free the colonial administration. Since the inquiry by Mr. Gladstone, the abandonment of the Seven Islands had remained on the order of the day in political circles, and the Government was only occupied in preparing public opinion for the change. An opportunity only was wanting. Although one was furnished by the most recent votes of the Ionian Parliament, the Palmerston Cabinet did not consider it sufficiently favourable. The revolution has provided another, and the reception of the candidature of Prince Alfred has succeeded in removing all hesitation."

IRELAND.

THE ORANGE SOCIETY.—The Earl of Enniskillen, Grand Master of the Orange Institution, has issued the annual address on behalf of its members. It begins with the usual adulation of the body, and its "high and holy cause," and then declares that the times are suggestive of caution to it. A reference to the late Roman Catholic procession in Dublin comes next, and is followed by the satirical attack upon the Lord Chancellor:—"When the Lord Chancellor of Ireland and other public functionaries degrade their high station by subscribing to the erection of a monument to the memory of Mr. O'Connell, that arch-agitator who sought in vain by his flatteries to corrupt the loyalty of Orangemen by inducing them to join in his wild cry for Repeal—when such is the reward of rebellion, and such the discouragement of your well-tried loyalty, you have need of patience."

SCOTLAND.

A BURGLAR IN A FIX.—A few days ago a lad named Archibald Campbell, about fifteen years of age, attempted to enter the premises of Mr. John Marshall, pawnbroker, Glasgow, and for this purpose ascended to the roof of the building, where he stripped off his jacket and shoes and descended the chimney leading to the pawnbroking office. The youth no doubt imagined that when he got the length of the fireplace he would be all right, and in a position to plunder the place, and then make his escape by the door; but he soon discovered that he had made a sad mistake. The front of the fireplace happened to be securely boarded with shelving, which contained pledged goods, and none of the apertures in the woodwork were large enough to admit the body of the young burglar. He then threw down several bundles of pledges, with the view of forcing an entrance into the apartment, but failed; and on the following day one of the pawnbroker's assistants observed the bundles lying on the floor, and, on replacing them, his hand came in contact with the head of the imprisoned burglar. The police were sent for, and Campbell, who had evidently made several desperate attempts to ascend the chimney, was captured and conveyed to the police office.

THE CASE OF THE REV. P. M'LAUGHLIN.—A memorial in regard to the case of this gentleman has been prepared by a number of gentlemen in the city of Glasgow of different creeds, which, after setting forth the facts, states that while the memorialists disclaim any intention of interfering with the proper administration of justice in any of her Majesty's courts, and while they do not presume to give any opinion as to the legal question involved in this matter, they are under a very decided impression that, looking to the whole features of the case—to the character of the witness, as certified even by the public prosecutor in course of the proceedings—to the motives and feelings by which he seems obviously to have been actuated throughout—and to the fact of restitution having been promptly made under his directions—that the extent of the punishment was unnecessarily great, and calculated rather to impair the effect intended to be produced by the example. The subscribers, not confined to the members of the Roman Catholic persuasion, but embracing members of the various religious denominations, respectfully represent the desirableness of that sentence being commuted, and therefore request that the Secretary of State may be pleased to submit the matter to her Majesty, with a recommendation that the sentence be accordingly commuted to such an extent as may in the circumstances seem reasonable and just.

THE PROVINCES.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The next meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society will be held at Worcester during the week commencing July 20. The site selected for the exhibition is in the immediate vicinity of Worcester, on the Battenhall property, belonging to Sir Thomas Sebright. The ground selected for the showyard has all just been levelled and drained. The extent is thirty-nine acres, and the fields for ploughing, reaping, mowing, and other agricultural operations, which are near at hand, are together above one hundred acres more. A branch will be run out of the West Midland Railway, which passes near, into the show-ground. The amount subscribed by Worcestershire for the necessary expense of the meeting is £4720. The special prizes are not yet arranged.

A LADY TURNED TO STONE.—A gentleman residing in Clifton, who has some unsophisticated country girls for servants, sent them to London to see the International Exhibition just before it closed. They expressed themselves very much pleased with their trip on their return, and, on being asked what they liked best amongst the collection, they said it was all very beautiful, but "the poor lady, Sir, who was turned to stone from eating cod and dumplings?" naturally asked their master, with much surprise. "Oh, yes, Sir," they replied; "twas very sad, to be sure, but curious." After a little he discovered they were alluding to the tinted Venus, and inquired how they came to hear it was a lady turned to stone by such strange diet. "Please, Sir, it was the policeman at the exhibition as told us," was their answer; "he said he did not know the young lady himself, but he had a friend as knew the young lady's mother uncommon well, and it was all quite true;" so that we suspect some of the Cockney police must have often amused themselves by practising on the credulity or simplicity of country girls.

THE NEW NIGHT-POACHING ACT.—EXTRAORDINARY CONDUCT OF A POLICEMAN.—A curious case came before the Andover magistrates at their fortnightly sitting—a respectable inhabitant of an adjoining parish (Charlton), named Dickman, having applied for the advice of the Bench under the following circumstances:—Mr. Dickman was in the town of Andover on the previous Saturday evening, and he purchased a rabbit, for which he paid 1s. 6d., for his Sunday's dinner. On carrying the rabbit home, however, he was stopped within a few yards of his house by the village policeman, who wished to know where he had obtained the rabbit. The reply was that he had purchased it for 1s. 6d. in Andover; and the policeman then inquired of whom, which question Mr. Dickman declined to answer. The police-officer then took the rabbit from its owner and conveyed it to the police-station, leaving Dickman to provide something else for his dinner on the following day. Dickman accordingly waited on the magistrates to complain of the conduct of the policeman, and to know by what authority his property had been taken from him. The magistrates said they believed that the policeman had acted bona fide in the matter, fully believing that Dickman had obtained the rabbit in an illegal manner, and therefore he had not stepped beyond his duty. They must, under those circumstances, decline to interfere.



THE FRENCH EXPEDITION TO MEXICO.—ARRIVAL OF GENERAL FOREY AT ORIZABA.

GENERAL FOREY AT ORIZABA.

THE French army in Mexico are still surrounded with difficulties which render their operations more than usually harassing. The Mexican troops have, it is true, retired to a greater distance, but they still hold sufficiently bold language, and at present nothing has been done which can be said to have had any very decided influence on the probable results of the Imperial intervention. The arrival of the

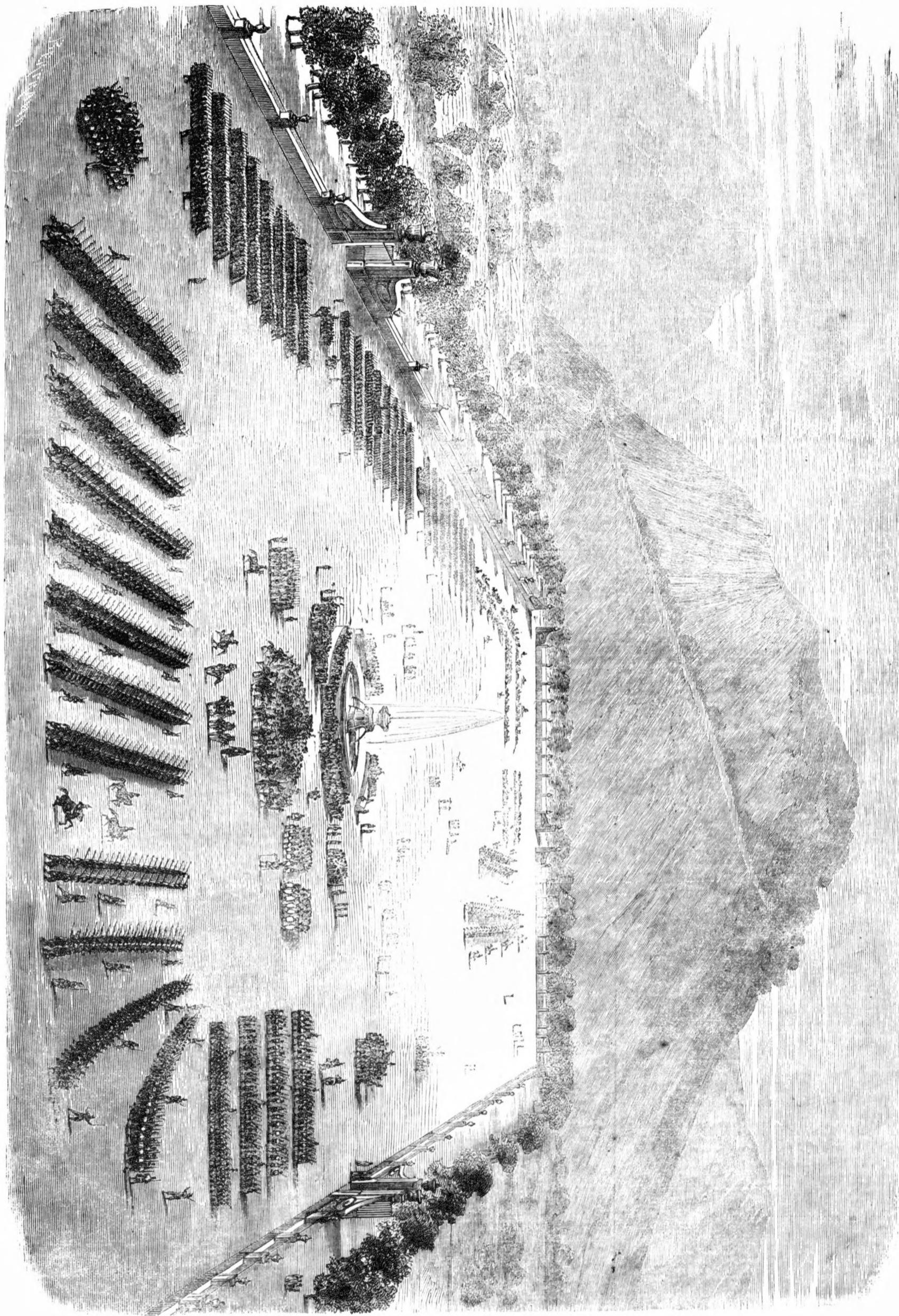
French Commander-in-Chief at Orizaba, after his stay in Vera Cruz, was marked by a banquet offered him by the mayor or ayuntamiento, at which covers were laid for eighty persons, and several toasts were drunk, during which General Forey repeated the sentiments which he had enunciated in the proclamations to the Mexican people, expressing a desire to effect the union of all parties, with the object of establishing a Government with which the European Powers may be able to treat.

The place opposite the General was occupied by Almonte, while the Prefect Tamaris and the old General Wolf sat on each side.

The next day the troops of the first expeditionary corps were paraded on the promenade of the Alameda, at the foot of Borrego, and passed in review before the General, who, after a brief and spirited address, distributed the medals and decorations sent by the Emperor. Our Engraving represents the arrival of the Commander-in-Chief at Orizaba, where he was received, near the old custom-house (now his



FRENCH SOLDIERS PURCHASING PROVISIONS AT ORIZABA.



own head-quarters), by a body of troops drawn up in the open space in front.

Later advices from Vera Cruz state that a fight has occurred at National Bridge, where the Mexicans were routed, their commanding officer being captured. 8000 French troops were to occupy Sonora.

It is also said that a large number of towns had declared in favour of the French intervention, and that Juarez intended posting himself at Tlascala to oppose the French advance on the capital by way of Piedras Negras. If the French succeeded in capturing Puebla, the sluices would now contain the waters of the lakes round Mexico were to be opened in order to flood the city. Marquez had ordered Jalapa and Alvarado. Juarez had issued a proclamation declaring that the penalty of death would be inflicted on all who carried despatches to or from the French army. All communications with the interior and the coast were virtually cut off. An attempt to get up a demonstration at Tlascala in favour of Juarez resulted in the inhabitants crying "Vive les Français!"

The troops are now so fully established at Orizaba that they are able to make ample arrangements for their own comfort, and, with the readiness almost always exhibited by French soldiers, have succeeded in establishing a good understanding with the townspeople and those itinerant fruit-sellers and dealers in provisions who form the most picturesque portion of the Mexican population. Our other Engravings represent a party of soldiers purchasing their extra rations from the market women of Orizaba, and the review in the Alameda to which we have already referred as occurring on the day following the arrival of General Forey.

THE REPUBLIC OF ANDORRA.

As the existence of a Republic, called Andorra, between France and Spain, may not be known to many persons even who are well up in their geography, the following particulars regarding this small State may not be without interest. A little incident which has just occurred in France, too, gives a living interest to the fact of the existence and history of Andorra. An Imperial decree has been issued granting, on the recommendation of the Minister of Public Instruction, free place in the Collège de Foix, at Toulouse, to two young men, citizens of the Republic of Andorra, "not as implying any right on the part of the Government of Andorra, but as a favour." The Republic possessed for three hundred years the right of nomination of two youths to the Collège of Toulouse. In the seventeenth century it fell into disuse, and has not been revived since.

The little State of Andorra lies on the south declivity of the Pyrenees, between the French department of the Ariège (Comté de Foix) to the north, and the Spanish district of Urgel (Puigcerda) to the south, and is thirty-six miles from north to south, and thirty from east to west. The three valleys of which the territory of the Republic is composed are among the most picturesque in the Pyrenees; and the mountains which shut them in are some of the highest and most difficult of access. It is divided into six parishes or communes, with a total population of about 9000, of which the chief town, Andorra, has about 1200. It abounds in iron mines; and on these, as well as its excellent pasture-grounds, the inhabitants chiefly depend for subsistence. They also do, or did, a fair share of business as smugglers. The most remarkable fact in its history is that this little State, though placed between such neighbours as France and Spain, has maintained its independence for more than 1000 years. For that independence they are indebted to Charlemagne. The Andorrans rendered such assistance to that Prince in 778, during his expedition into Spain against the Moors, whom he defeated in the valley afterwards called after him Carol (Carolus), that he made them independent of the neighbouring Princes and allowed them to be governed by their own laws. Louis Le Debonnaire subsequently ceded to the Bishop of Urgel certain rights which his father, Charlemagne, had reserved for himself; and in virtue of this grant the Bishop of this ancient diocese acquired part of the tithes of the six parishes, and assumed spiritual jurisdiction over the whole Republic.

Under the first Republic the feudal rights held by the French Kings were abandoned, and Andorra was for some time completely separated from France. The Andorrans, however, remained faithful in their attachment to France. During the War of Independence they resisted the violation of their territory by the Spaniards, though in customs, language, and geographical position they are more Catalonia than French; and to the French, rather than to the Spaniards, they afforded all the assistance they could. In recompense for their services they solicited the re-establishment of the ancient order of things. Napoleon granted their prayer. An Imperial decree in 1806 declared Andorra to be a Republic "connected with France." A native of the neighbouring French department of Ariège is their Viquier or Criminal Judge, whose place, however, is almost a sinecure. There is but little crime in Andorra, and the chief duty of the Judge is to prevent French criminals from taking refuge in the neutral territory. The Andorrans pay a yearly sum of about 1000f. to France, not, however, as tribute, but as compensation for the privilege of importing duty free certain specified articles. They are completely independent of Spain, for the Bishop of Urgel's jurisdiction is exclusively spiritual. They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church.

The inhabitants of this State, which may be considered as the oldest free republic in existence, live pretty much as their ancestors lived 1000 years ago. Beyond the garden attached to their house few possess landed property; such wealth as they can boast of consists of sheep and cattle, or iron forges. Their usages are aristocratic. They maintain the law of primogeniture; and the chiefs of families marry only into families of equal standing with their own, but without regard to fortune, which in their eyes is of much less importance than to avoid misalliances. When there are only daughters, the eldest succeeds to the property as a son would do; and she always marries a younger son of another family, who must take her name, and become one of her family, as if he were born in it.

POLITICAL TRIALS IN POLAND.—The following letter from Warsaw, dated the 13th inst., supplies an account of the trial of the conspirators which has been proceeding there for some time:—"In the first instance the accused numbered sixty, but, in consequence of some discoveries made by the investigatory commission, the number was increased to sixty-six, and the trial was somewhat delayed in consequence. The proceedings began three days since, in open court, at the Government House. It is a military tribunal, and the sentences will be in accordance with the martial code, but the accused are allowed the benefit of civil advocates. Since the commencement of the trial some of the accused have been removed from the citadel to the house where the tribunal sits, but those who are still lodged in the citadel are brought thence each day in military conveyances, guarded by strong detachments of military, and are reconveyed to the fortress at night. The prisoners' counsel, amongst whom M. Radowski distinguished himself by his bold, and glowing, and patriotic speech, in the first place contended that the Court was not competent to try the accused, and denied the existence of a conspiracy, as it was not judicially proved. The accused are divided into classes, but only twelve are in the first class, or those charged with the gravest offences. The examination of these was concluded yesterday, and that of two of the others began to-day. The greater number of the accused seem to be of imperfectly developed intellect. Their declarations were mostly to the effect that they had not taken the revolutionary oath, or had not understood it—they had not circulated the forbidden documents—had not collected any money, and had not induced any one to join the conspiracy. In general it is remarked of the young people that, as they might have begun their error without a proper appreciation of the importance of the step they were taking, so now that they are placed before the Judges they do not appear to fully comprehend the critical nature of their position. The public take but little interest in the trial, and this interest is only excited by the military display made at the escort of the prisoners."

THE VOLUNTEERS.—A very important circular in relation to the volunteers has just been issued from the War Office. Sir George Lewis has addressed a circular to the Lords Lieutenant of counties intimating that, as he is about to propose a revision of the regulations affecting volunteer corps, he thinks it necessary that some restriction should be placed on their numbers, and he therefore intimates that he will not recommend the Queen to accept the services of any new corps that may be formed after the 1st of January next year. The revision has probably reference to the assistance that is recommended to be given to corps by the late Commission. We may take it that for some time to come there will be no addition to the volunteer corps now formed, though there does not appear to be any limit intended to the strength of the corps now existing.

SURVEYING FOR A RAILROAD.

The subject of railways was gradually becoming familiar to the public mind, and that thoughtful men were anticipating with confidence the adoption of steam-power for the purposes of railway traction. At the same time a still more profitable class of labourers was at work—first, men like Stephenson, who were engaged in improving the locomotive and making it a practicable and economical working power; and next, those like Edward Pease, of Darlington, and Joseph Sandars, of Liverpool, who were organising the means of laying down the railways. Mr. William James, of West Bromwich, belonged to the active class of projectors. He was a man of considerable social influence, of an active temperament, and had from an early period taken a warm interest in the formation of turnroads. Acting as land-agent for gentlemen of property in the mining districts, he had laid down several miles in the neighbourhood of Birmingham, Gloucester, and Bristol; and he published many pamphlets urging their formation in other places. At one period of his life he was a large iron manufacturer, for some time acting as chairman of the Staffordshire ironmasters. The times, however, went against him. It was thought he was too bold, some considered him even reckless, in his speculations; and he lost almost his entire fortune. He continued to follow the business of a land agent, and it was while engaged in making a survey for one of his clients in the neighbourhood of Liverpool early in 1821, that he first heard of Mr. Sandars's project of a railway between that town and Manchester. He at once called upon Mr. Sandars, and offered his services as surveyor of the proposed line. After conferring with his friend Mr. Moss, Mr. Sandars authorised James to proceed, and agreed to pay him for the survey at the rate of £10 a mile, or £300 for the entire survey. The trial survey was then proceeded with, but it was conducted with great difficulty, the inhabitants of the district entertaining the most violent prejudices against the formation of the proposed railway. In some places Mr. James and his surveying party even encountered personal violence. Near Newton-in-the-Willocks the farmers stationed men at the field gates with pitchforks, and sometimes with guns, to drive the surveyors back. At St. Helen's, one of the chainmen was laid hold of by a mob of colliers, and threatened to be hurled down a culvert. A number of men, women, and children collected and ran after the surveyors wherever they made their appearance, bawling nicknames and throwing stones at them. As one of the chainmen was climbing over a gate one day a labourer made at him with a pitchfork, and ran it through his clothes into his back; other watchmen coming up, the chainman, who was more stunned than hurt, took to his heels and fled. But that mysterious-looking instrument—the theodolite—most excited the fury of the natives, who concentrated on the man who carried it their fiercest execrations and most offensive nicknames. A powerful fellow, a noted bruiser, was hired by the surveyors to carry the instrument, with a view to its protection against all assailants; but one day an equally powerful fellow, a St. Helen's collier, cock of the walk in his neighbourhood, made up to the theodolite bear to wrest it from him by sheer force. A battle took place, the collier was soundly pummeled, the natives poured in volleys of stones upon the surveyors and their instruments, and the theodolite was smashed to pieces. In the meantime the survey was proceeded with, in the face of great opposition on the part of the proprietors of the lands through which the railway was intended to pass. The prejudices of the farming and labouring classes were strongly excited against the persons employed upon the ground, and it was with the greatest difficulty that the levels could be taken. This opposition was especially manifested when the attempt was made to survey the line through the properties of Lords Derby and Sefton, and also where it crossed the Duke of Bridgewater's canal. At Knowsley Mr. Stephenson was driven off the ground by the keepers, and threatened with rough handling if found there again. Lord Derby's farmers also turned out their men to watch the surveying party, and prevent them entering upon any lands where they had the power of driving them off. Afterwards, Mr. Stephenson suddenly and unexpectedly went upon the ground with a body of surveyors and their assistants, who outnumbered Lord Derby's keepers and farmers, hastily collected to resist them; and this time they were only threatened with the legal consequences of their trespass. The same sort of resistance was offered by Lord Sefton's keepers and farmers, with whom the following ruse was adopted:—A minute was concocted, purporting to be a resolution of the Old Quay Canal Company, to oppose the projected railroad by every possible means, and calling upon landowners and others to afford every facility for making such a survey of the intended line as should enable the opponents to detect errors in the scheme of the promoters, and thereby ensure its defeat. A copy of this minute, without any signature, was exhibited by the surveyors who went upon the ground; and the farmers, believing them to have the sanction of the landlords, permitted them to proceed with the hasty completion of their survey. The principal opposition, however, was experienced from Mr. Bradshaw, the manager of the Duke of Bridgewater's canal property, who offered a vigorous and protracted resistance to the survey in all its stages. The Duke's farmers obstinately refused permission to enter upon their fields, although Mr. Stephenson offered to pay for any damage that might be done. Mr. Bradshaw positively refused his sanction in any case; and, being a strict preserver of game, with a large staff of keepers in his pay, he declared that he would order them to shoot or apprehend any persons attempting a survey over his property. But one moonlight night a survey was obtained by the following ruse:—Some men, under the orders of the surveying party, were set to fire off guns in a particular quarter; on which all the gamekeepers on the watch made off in that direction, and they were drawn away to such a distance in pursuit of the supposed poachers as to enable a rapid survey to be made during their absence.—*Smiles's Lives of the Engineers.*

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The British Columbia papers of October give good accounts of the mines. The *British Colonist* says:—"On Friday we had a long conversation with a miner from Williams Creek, who travelled over nearly the whole Cariboo country last summer. He says that the rush of 'broken' is over. Few who come in future will have dust, and many will have great quantities of it. Several men who came down with him on the last trip of the Enterprise, with from 2000 dols, to 6000 dols. in their possession, reported themselves 'strapped,' for fear of assassination or robbery if it were publicly known that they had money, and this, our informant says, will not be the case with future arrivals from the river. Many miners are at work on small creeks and gulches, and taking out the biggest kind of pay, whose names and the names of the localities in which they are busy have never been heard of in Victoria. The high prices of provisions did the injury to the country this year, and not the lack of dust. Our informant left Williams Creek on the 13th of September, when snow was falling fast, and lay two inches deep on the banks of the creek. The nugget found in Major Downie's claim weighed 1100 dols.; this claim pays about 50 dols. a day to the hand. Beegan's claim, half a mile below the Major's, pays 30 ounces a day to the company. A nugget weighing between 400 dols. and 500 dols. was obtained from this claim. All the hill claims on this creek are paying well. The creek claims below the Canon are yielding quite as richly as the creek claims above. On Lowhee Creek about 100 men are working. In one of the claims 100 dols. to the square foot is being made; 536 dols. was taken out of another claim on this creek in one day. Tilton's claim, also on Lowhee, will yield the owner an independence. Our informant showed us specimens of coarse gold from Lowhee which will assay 18 dols. 60c. to the ounce. In Lightning Creek three claims are paying richly. Three other companies make 15 dols. a day. On Last Chance Creek three companies are at work, making 80 dols. a day to the hand. Anderson Creek, a tributary of Lightning, has one company at work, taking out 40 dols. a day to the hand. Jack of Clubs Creek has one company drifting; they obtained a good prospect; something heavy is expected from this creek. Our Antler diggings are small, but will last for years. Five companies are at work on Sugar Creek, and make from 15 dols. to 20 dols. a day to the hand. One of these companies had reached the bed-rock and obtained a handsome prospect: big diggings are looked for there. A company is working on Nelson Creek, and doing well in the hill. A shaft has been sunk 70ft. in depth, and a prospect of from 1c. to 10c. obtained. There are numerous little creeks that are never heard of here, wherefrom one to five companies are making handsome wages. On Snowshoe eight companies make 16 dols. a day to the hand. One company on Chisholm 10 dols. to 15 dols. Four companies on Davis are doing well. Harvey's has one company doing well in the creek. A good hill prospect was obtained on Lightning, 100ft. above the level of the creek, at the rear of the California company's claim. Judge Begbie was engaged in trying causes on Williams on the 13th. As a farming country, that lying on the line of the Brigade trail is pronounced by our informant as the best in the world, and on Cottonwood Creek there is land with which the best soil on Vancouver Island will not compare."

STONEWALL JACKSON.—A correspondent of a Charleston paper relates two anecdotes of General Jackson:—A Yankee captain, captured in the battles beyond Richmond, was brought to some brigadier's head-quarters. Being fatigued he lay down under a tree to rest. Soon after General Lee and Staff rode up. The Yankee asked who he was, and, when told, praised his soldierly appearance in extravagant terms. Not long after Jackson and his Staff rode up. When told that that was Jackson the Yankee bounced to his feet in great excitement, showing that he was much more anxious to see old Stonewall than Lee. He gazed at him a long time. "And that's Stonewall Jackson?" "Yes." "Waal, I swan, he aint much for looks; and with that he lay down and went to sleep. During the same battles a straggler, who had built a nice fire in the old field, and was enjoying it all to himself, observed what he took to be a squad of cavalry. The man in front seemed to be reeling in his saddle. The straggler ran out to him and said, "Look here, old fellow; you are mighty happy. Where do you get your liquor from. Give me some. I'm as dry as a powder-horn." Imagine his feelings when he found it was Jackson—the most ungrateful rider in the army, and who naturally sways from side to side as if he were "three sheets in the wind."

THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.—Colonel Yolland, it seems, is dissatisfied with the signal arrangements of the Metropolitan Railway. He has declined to advise the granting of the usual Board of Trade certificate until alterations in this respect are made. It had been intended to open the line on New Year's Day, but now it is said to be impossible to have the required signals put up in time to carry out that intention.

Literature.

Roundabout Papers. By W. M. THACKERAY. (Reprinted from the *Cornhill Magazine*.) Smith, Elder, and Co.

Scarcely anything from Mr. Thackeray, in any shape, reprint or not, can be unwelcome. There is a great deal of "pottering" and article-making in these papers, and said more downright egotism of rather an ill-tempered kind; but Mr. Thackeray has earned the right to egotise (*passee le mot!*), and one does not mind paying to hear such a lion grumble a bit. One thing we do mind paying for—his attempts to write "good." The article "Nil Nisi Bonum," in the present volume is, like all Mr. Thackeray's homilies, mauldin. It was not written (we remember) as a "Roundabout Paper," and is flung head over heels into the present collection by way of tag, or "moral." The remainder of the papers are fifth rate specimens of what Mr. Thackeray can do better than anybody that ever wrote in English (that we know of)—we mean the sort of pagan chaff which Charlotte Brontë had in her eye when she said the great man "defended himself like a great Turk and bethen as he is; that is to say, the excuses were worse than the crimes." This sort of chaff has two direct effects among many indirect ones. One is useful—that of keeping the correct people from thinking too much of themselves. The other is very bad—being that of making the reckless livens sceptical of goodness, and indifferent to anything but life on a decent average level. As the reckless people are ten thousand to one compared with the conscientious people, the result of all this might be guessed, and is, indeed, but too plain in the corrupted literature of the day—corrupted, as it is, by Mr. Thackeray more than any other living writer. No individual, no community, ever thrives—or will ever thrive—on the mere gospel of good-fellowship. "Hang it, we're all alike bad; let's work hard at each other's lives, and be jolly. Or if anybody is to be punished, everybody must be: let's flog all round, and then be jolly again!" This is the mere chaff of a natural historian of men and women, not the teaching of a moralist. So long as it is direct and simple it has its place, and, whether right or wrong, it is not corrupting. But when foolish people begin to howl, and say this is not moral writing, the author turns round and makes the wrong answer. What he ought to say is, "No, of course it isn't; it wasn't meant to be; I'm not a moralist; I'm a natural historian; I paint, to the best of my ability, the thing which I see; and you must get your own moral of it." That is fair and complete. But what, in fact, does Mr. Thackeray say? Freely, but not unfairly, paraphrased, he says this:—"I am moral, you unjust people; you shall see if I'm not! It is a fib to say I had a little boy chopped up in a sausage-machine; that I drowned a little girl in the New River; and that I go to bed tipsy every night. Read my books! See what I say about the Awful Will; and about 'Be a good man, my dear,' and about everybody being a gentleman. Don't you call that moral?" No, Sir; frankly, we do not. Your Awful Will is only another phrase for the "essentially" immoral conception of Fate. Your echoing Sir Walter Scott's dying words must be read in the light of your own pictures of life; and in them your "good" people are those who exemplify, almost unconsciously, the easy virtues, and who are, almost without exception, represented by you as being beaten in the battle of existence. As to what you say about being a gentleman—

Pray God, be each a gentleman!

we hardly know how to deal with it, because the very manner in which you use the word involves some equivocation. You date your reading of it (in the poem from which we quote) from a certain Christmas carol:—

"Glory to God on high, it said,
And peace on earth to gentle men!"

In this couplet (in which you adopt a reading of the verse in Luke's Gospel, which has nothing better to say for itself than that it has been used to justify persecution) you make the word "gentleman" mean a man of "good will." To tell your reader to be a gentleman in that sense is of course "moral"; but, unfortunately (and you know it), all the glosses in the world will not make your reader take the word gentleman in that way. He will do it for a moment, and then his mind will slide away from your interpretation (as you must foresee) to the vulgar one, and your advice to him to be a gentleman will end in smoke. That is not your fault? Well, it is not your fault that your reader won't be a gentleman in the high sense, but it is your fault that the semi-equivocation of your language gives him such a fine opportunity of bemuddling his own conscience and fancying he is a man of good will, when he is only a man "who keeps a gig." The extreme difficulty of telling who is a gentleman, appears in sufficient force from these very papers of yours; for on page 86 you say the "Saturday Reviewer piques himself, and justly and honourably in the main, upon his character of gentleman." By the time you have got to pages 109, 110 you have changed your opinion, and both on those pages and on page 218 you pretty plainly tell the same "Reviewer" that he is no gentleman at all. But this is only by the way. Another "aside" shall be this—that it is greatly in virtue of the corruption of modern thought among the intelligent middle classes by sceptical novelists that the *Saturday Review* can exist at all.

It is impossible to avoid handling the book before us in a way somewhat like the one we have fallen into. Its true name is (not "Roundabout Papers" but) Thackeray's Apology. And again we say, "the excuses are worse than the crimes." Life that must be lived at the level assumed in this wearisome chaffing is not worth living. It is an idiot's tale, full of sound and fury, signifying—butchers' bills. Fortunately, a large number of Mr. Thackeray's readers are incapable of "drawing inferences," whether by the "cart-load" or singly: so that they get the good out of his writing and miss the poison. Fortunately, also, he has himself, of late years, supplied, now and then, the antidote. "The Virginians," though a very bad novel, contained so many passages which were noble as well as "good," that we were only too much pleased to try and read, retrospectively, all the author had written in the light of that book. In the book now before us the old keynote is struck again. Here is the same almost incessant chaffing, only less bitter. It is not now Mephistopheles, or a cousin of his. It is a blasé elderly gentleman in a shooting-jacket, lounging in front of the great tragedy in an undecided frame of mind, and once in a way, when he passes a funeral in the street, talking "good." For our own part, we prefer the simple-hearted bitterness of "Vanity Fair" to the equivocation of "Roundabout Papers." If the great themes of thought are to be touched at all, let it be strenuously; save that, once in a way, we may give a Shakespeare, a Jean Paul, a Thackeray, leave to laugh with one cheek and cry with the other. But if a man has no positive opinion about vital questions, let him hold his tongue. It is not permitted—never shall be permitted—to any man, under cover of charity to the mob of grovellers, to make game of the poor wayward soldiers who hold their foreheads up. Not even of their self-complacency? No, Sir! If you can't—and by "chaff" you cannot—if you can't take out the threads of spiritual pride without unravelling the whole texture of what is strenuous and true to ideals, leave it alone. We have no thanks for the man who unmasks a thousand hypocrites, if he at the same time takes the crown of "spiritual fire" from the head of a single hero.

A word or two more. It is not in empty compliment, by way of make-weight, that we have just placed Mr. Thackeray's name in such immortal company. That is its right place, and there it will stay—when "Roundabout Papers" are forgotten, and when people will wonder, even more than we do, at the incessant allusions to birching which occur in Mr. Thackeray's writing. Such references occur—for example, on pp. 70, 190, and 206, of this volume of 352 pages. As sure as Mr. Thackeray is a living man, there will, after his death, be invented, to account for all this, some horrid myth that he'll be sorry for in Hades.

We thought we had done, but we have forgotten to mention one instance of shooting-jacket writing which is so flagrantly bad that we doubt if a parallel is to be found in the hastiest scribbling of the fast school. Not even in extravaganza have we come across an example of literary licence like the following:—"I am like the man

who loves you the last bottle of his '25 claret. It is the pride of his cellar; he knows it, and he has a right to praise it. He takes up the bottle *fashioned so slenderly, takes it up tenderly, 'cants it with care, places it before his friends,'* &c. Well, the whole passage is, like five hundred more not far off it, vile, slouching writing; but if the "Bridge of Sighs" is to be turned into a *pons asinorum*, with the greatest of modern novelties to lead the way, what next, we should like to know? Now, any man might (perhaps) have written this bit of poterry; most men would have struck it out in a flash of lightning; nobody, one would think, could allow it to pass in proof; but Mr Thackeray deliberately reproduces it in a volume. There it stands—Thackeray to speak for it-elf. In a similar vein of tampering are the bad logic and worse teaching to be found on pages 172, 173, and 174. Who believes in the Good Boy? Not Vivien. She knows better: she is not such a baby in the knowledge of the world." That's her vein at page 173; but at page 339, having looked into an undertaker's shop in the meanwhile, she puts on Mrs. Trimmer's mob-cap, and taking the literary charity-boy by the cuff, says, "Be a Good Man, my dear." Ah, *voilà!* he's sure to mind the lesson.

We wish Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co. would bind some of their books a little more firmly (there is nothing to complain of on the score of neatness), and print them all more elegantly; for there is always a little coarseness about their type, which, however, is very readable. They are understood to be liberal and even generous publishers, and we would gladly have to take from them nothing but what is thoroughly good.

Waterloo: the Downfall of the First Napoleon; a History of the Campaign of 1815. By GEORGE HOOPER, Author of "The Italian Campaigns of General Bonaparte" With Map and Plans. Smith, Elder, and Co.

This is a good book, and, we think, a timely one. The writer tells us he has been eight years about it, and that he only finished it early in the present year. If anybody has been puzzled by the Waterloo mystifications of Victor Hugo in his "Les Misérables," he will find the clue he wants in the clear narrative and strong, honest, common sense of Mr. Hooper, who thinks it well, "when we are asked to put faith in France and disarm, that attention should be recalled to the period of her greatest attempt to become dominant in Europe." He justifies this opinion by ample explanations, which may, however, be briefly summed up in the striking words of Louis Napoleon to Victor Emmanuel, "A Government is bound by its antecedents." This is no more true, absolutely and unreservedly, of Governments than it is of individuals; but if France *believes* it to be true, we must regulate our policy accordingly. "Next to conquering," says Mr. Hooper, "nothing pleases the French nation so much as a policy which makes them appear about to conquer." And he winds up his book by an emphatic appeal to our patriotism. France under a Napoleon is quite a different thing from France under a Bourbon. So long as she is the professed champion of the nationalities, seeking her own aggrandisement in the troubles of States; so long as she hungers for the Rhine frontier, all wise nations will stand on their guard, and England will have to pay a bitter penalty if she neglects the teaching of history in this respect. That is what Mr. Hooper has given us by way of moral to the story of Waterloo.

Of the story itself we can only say that it seems to us to be told with a painstaking clearness and completeness which leave nothing to be desired; that it is illustrated by maps and plans of the most intelligible kind; and that the account of that particular day's fighting, in which the "Soldier of Duty" defeated the "Soldier of Ambition," is written with a simple dramatic power which contrasts most favourably with the very best style of the foreign correspondent of to-day. The man who has learnt to be effective, without appearing for an instant to aim at effect, has learnt how to weight his language in a manner which is creditable to himself in the use of it and wholesome to his readers in the effect produced. The splash, and tear, and dash of the "powerful writing," so called, which is commonly supposed the right thing in descriptions of battles, death-beds, and the like, may please the groundlings, but it corrupts and degrades them as well as the man who condescends to put his pen to such uses.

We are not able to add that Mr. Hooper is happy in turning the edge of Napoleon's protest against being made a prisoner at St. Helena. The protest was not unanswerable; but Mr. Hooper, impatient of logic, has simply evaded it, or, at least, only broken its force a little. We call his attention to this point with the hope that in a second edition he may take the trouble to *answer* the Emperor's appeal to the world from that rock in the ocean.

In estimating the importance of Louis Napoleon and his policy to England, and impressing upon us the necessity of being ready for whatever may happen, there is one point overlooked by Mr. Hooper, or perhaps not touched out of delicacy. Yet it has been touched before, and by not exactly the most refined of hands. The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, some little while ago, went on the Continent for the benefit of his health. Among his notes of observations abroad we remember one which struck us as rather cool. The rev. gentleman saw the French Emperor—on horseback first, and then walking—and was so much impressed by his shakiness in the leg as to add that, however uncomfortable he might make us feel by his schemes about Rhine frontiers or what not, it was not likely, thank goodness! to last long. Those legs, thought Mr. Spurgeon, did not betoken the most insurable of lives. Mr. Hooper does not go in for this pious speculation; which we have, however, heard improved upon by even gentle and religious Englishmen, who have addressed themselves to the point (when loyalties and Royalties have been the topic) in the style of that little boy who, being alone in the room with his grandamamma and the cat, said, with tender reticence, "I wish one of us three was dead; and it isn't me, and it isn't you, pessy." One of the most brutal things ever done in this line was, we were told, done by a popular singer and composer. The news of the death of the Emperor Nicholas reached him in the middle of one of his concerts. "And now, then," said the gentleman (as I am informed), "now then, I think, we'll have 'Cheer boys, cheer!'"

One Hundred Lectures on the Ancient and Modern Dramatic Poets, the Heathen Mythology, Oratory, and Elocution, down to the Nineteenth Century, commencing with Thespis, the Founder of the Dramatic Art, Sixth Century B.C. By B. C. JONES. Vol. I. Simpkin and Co.

We have just been reviewing a book about the hero of a hundred fights, and, with a mind strained by martial images, feel it a relief to come down to a hero of a hundred lectures. Here is his portrait, prefixed to the volume, and underneath it are the words—"The Author of One Hundred Lectures," &c. At first we hope it is a bad likeness, for it is remarkable chiefly for a good beard, a neat get-up, an intolently conceited simper, and an out-look of truly fearful stupidity. But on turning over the pages we find the worst omens of the portrait simply fulfilled. The dulness of this "author" is of that awful, unconscious, patronising kind which it nearly drives a man mad to witness. And there is no prospect of seeing the last of it. Mr. Jones expressly tells us that he is "in possession of sufficient material to write upon for the next year or two." Good heavens! And he adds—"I'll be as prolific in my effusions as Nature will allow me." His utter unconscience of what he is really doing may be gathered from the simplicity with which he at the same time says, "I'll promise not to disorganise your garric capacities." Oh, Mr. Jones! it would take more than "a hundred lectures" to "disorganise" a "capacity;" but if you mean to say you are not a disturber of men's digestions you greatly underrate your own powers.

The English are fond of Shakespeare. Mr. Jones sympathises, and engages to present his readers, hereafter, with "lucid definitions of his (Shakespeare's) various impressions." These "definitions" of the "various impressions of our sweet bard" may, we gather from a half-throat at page 34, run to "a thousand lectures, ay, ten thousand;" after which, Mr. Jones thinks he might "begin again, finding new matter for another thousand or two, and experience fresh delight every time." This is because Mr. Jones has "taken the trouble of thoroughly investigating him." Our motive for mentioning this prospect is, we hope, plain. Let the public receive themselves now

they know what is coming, and not go in too strongly for Mr. Boucicault's new scheme; and let Mr. B. look out for the competition of Mr. J.

A Scamper through Sweden; or, Jottings from my Journal. S. W. Rowleson and Son.

A very little book, which necessarily contains only a very little information about Gottenburg and Stockholm. This is a very fortunate arrangement, as the author has not the faintest pretension to literary ability or humour, and could only have been laughed at by the "literary friend" whom he mentions as having persuaded him into print. The fun that tries its hand on sea-sickness is not to be envied; and to be constantly speaking of a fellow-passenger as "Mr. Curly" is not likely to elicit much genuine laughter. Here are two pages of reflection and description—

It struck me that the Swedes were a bilious people, and that Holloway's old Parr's pills might reap a rare harvest if properly advertised. Although the nights are seldom dark, passengers retire to rest early.

Tired of walking the decks, so have a pedestrian run along the banks of the canal, and try to keep up with the Thunberg until she reaches the next lock.

I know whose steam was exhausted first, as I tried two miles of it, but it was hard work.

Landed at a village with an odd name on the 6th, not far from Trollhättan, in order to view the falls, as the Thunberg would wait at Trollhättan; hired a guide to show me the falls for six dollars—a jovial-looking fellow, with ragged clothes and uncombed hair, clean face and naked feet. Looked more like an Irishman than a Swede, was a good runner, but could not speak English. The reader will have no difficulty in detecting the kindly taste for puffing patent medicines—the ingenious way in which the information is cut and arranged into paragraphs—the novelty of a pedestrian run; and, indeed, the grammar, the style, the everything. It is no bad specimen of the whole performance.

JUNIOR LITERATURE.

The Story of Peter Parley's Own Life. Personal Narrative of the late Samuel Goodrich. Edited by FRANK FREEMAN. With Illustrations. Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

Tuflongbo's Journey in Search of Ogres, &c. By HOLME LEE. Six Illustrations by H. SANDERSON. Smith, Elder, and Co.

Did not Mr. Freeman, in his preface, hope that the story of "Peter Parley" would find favour in the eyes of young people, it would have been difficult to imagine that for them it had been intended. It is, in fact, the story of a curious and restless life; and bat for the fine lessons of honour, honesty, industry, and prudence which it contains, would be no more useful to youth than any of the ceaseless stock of memoirs and correspondences which we are told no gentleman's library should be without. Not only all the world and his wife, but all their numerous children for the last two generations, know something about "Peter Parley;" but very many are quite unaware that he was Goodrich the publisher, and Goodrich the United States' Consul at Paris, and consequently sure to have fallen in with many of the most remarkable men of his time. Consul's are always sure to be "characters" in the estimation of most people, and the publishing fraternity are scarcely less so. Campbell, with a ghastly joke, pardoned all Napoleon's sanguinary glory because he had shot a bookseller; but, despite that testimony to the guiltiness of the tribe, it must be admitted that the bibliophile is an interesting animal. Mr. Goodrich's actual experiences of at least half a century cannot fail to be read with great interest by age as well as by youth. His early descriptions of Connecticut life seem incredible in the very face of the year 1862. At Ridgefield, for instance, "there was a butcher, but he only went from house to house to slaughter the cattle and swine of his neighbours; there was a tanner, but he only dressed other people's skins; there was a clothier, but he generally jested and dressed other people's cloth." Nothing like a factory existed, and no general shop for one article, except a hatter's, which supplied the town, and this usually in exchange for peltries. Later in life, when Mr. Goodrich became a great traveller, he must have been startled at the opulence of London even in those days. He met everybody, including the Duke of Wellington, at a review on Hounslow Heath. "I obtained admission," he says, "by paying five shillings; for I learned that in England money is quite as almighty as in America." At Edinburgh he dined with Scott, Lockhart, &c. Byron was just dead, and Sir Walter "compared him to the sun withdrawn from the heavens at the very moment when every telescope was levelled at him to discover either his glory or his spots." One of the few celebrities missed was Rogers, so that, in the way of reported conversations, the book contains but little of the feebility element. Towards the conclusion the narrative has an almost personal interest. Mr. Goodrich's literary intimacy with such men as N. P. Willis, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Longfellow, and other great names, who were just beginning to make American books be real, gives occasion for passages of much interest and amusing anecdote. In France he saw the last revolution proper, and, as Consul, the coup-d'état of the 2d of December, 1851, not 1852, as described in the book. After two years' service he was recalled, returned home, and, so far, there is conclusion. Mr. Goodrich is since dead, and this unpretentious record of an honourable life will be generally admired, although touched here and there with the garrulity of life and certain flashes of amusing vanity, which not infrequently are found to be inseparable from starting success. If the present volume should give an impetus to the Peter Parley trade, purchasers should be cautious. There used to be countless volumes bearing that nom de plume which had never been seen by Samuel Goodrich. Perhaps they were, nevertheless, as good; perhaps they were better. What do children read from now? Giles Gingerbread learnt his letters just as barristers absorb law. There is only a difference of degree between gingerbread and legs of mutton. Most of us can say that our own little lessons have been learnt long ago, and many of them forgotten; somehow, by the time that we begin to recognise the presence of Amaryllis or Bridget, that Greek root becomes hopelessly mislaid, although we may be fatally perfect in our *pons asinorum*. Let us see what the present generation of Peter Parleys are doing for the little ones.

The world is more accustomed to Holme Lee in the shape of a calm, well-considered novelette in one volume than in a fanciful romance intended for young people. But, to explain how well the more unaccustomed department of literature is touched, it might be said that "Tuflongbo" errs only on the side of being too good. Air, Fire, and Water, or modifications of them, are always talking or doing, and interfering in a style calculated to do much moral good, provided there were not quite so much of it. The style is remarkable for point and intelligence of a highly poetical kind. The story has interest of a certain description. Tuflongbo is under the influence of the fairies, who speedily discover that it is best for him to follow his own bent, and be leader of a quaint band of young fellows who resolve to roam the world in search of ogres. They equip him in a "changeable chameleon suit," which is green in the morning for the hunt, scarlet at noon for the feast, and rainbow-hued, frosted with silver, at night for the dance. Ogres are to be found in plenty, as everybody knows, by those who lay themselves out for the chase, and, of course, Tuflongbo and his companions are successful enough; but, fortunately for them, they come out of all scrapes owing to a peculiar institution of Fairyland. It appears that ogres always refuse to eat "fairykins," on the simple ground that they are too good to be eaten; not that they like to refuse them, but that it is an old-established custom amongst them, and that there is honour even amongst ogres. The monsters with a plurality of heads have them all unscrewed and locked up in the cupboard at night before going to bed. Then they sleep soundly. The females, possibly from simple force of imitation, generally unscrew their own heads after having performed that friendly service for their husbands; but it may be doubted whether the process is as essential to their slumbers as to that of the men. However, it is a common opinion in the world that the heads of women are always more or less turned. At last, Tuflongbo's boots begin to show signs of decay, although they were supposed to be indestructible; and he

is grown tall and bearded, and wearied, and laden with wisdom. He has found out what becomes of the old moons; men in blue aprons cut them up into stars of all magnitudes and every degree of brilliancy. He sets out for home, and his last public act is one deserving of much public sympathy. It is the abolition of the revolting custom of allowing little children to teach their grannies to suck eggs. He makes frightful havoc amongst the too-clever children, especially those who express a preference for work rather than play, and of course he becomes universally respected. There is much quaint humour as well as the poetic element in Holme Lee's volume, which should be in the hands of all who care to cherish such charms of imagination and style. Mr. Sanderson's illustrations are well worthy of the text.

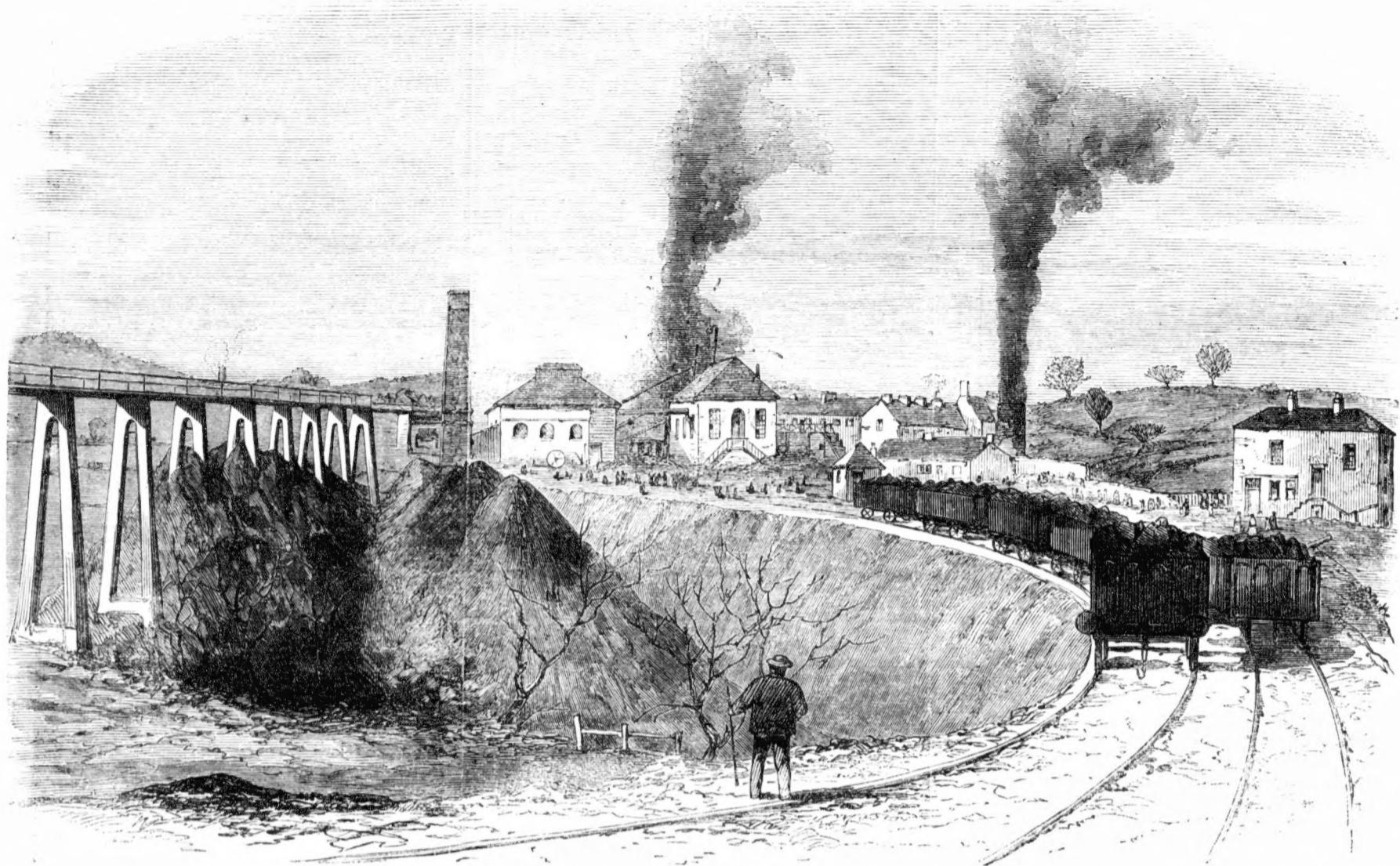
THE TALLOW-TREE IN ALGERIA.—This remarkable tree, a native of China, and called by botanists *Croton sebiferum*, or *Stillingia sebifera*, has now been successfully acclimated in Algeria through the exertions of the French Government. Its cultivation on a large scale would be extremely advantageous to the poorer classes, since it would diminish the cost of candles. Fifteen years later it would yield from three to four. It requires no care or watering; it may be planted on the roadside; its leaves are like those of the aspen; its bark is white and smooth; and its seeds, of an almost hemispherical form, are covered with a waxy substance. In the Island of Chusan large quantities of oil and tallow are extracted from its fruit, which is gathered in November and December, when the tree has lost all its leaves. The twigs bearing the fruit are cut down and carried to a farmhouse, where the seed is stripped off and put into a wooden cylindrical box open at one end, and pierced with holes at the opposite one. The box is then suspended in a cylindrical kettle containing water, and the diameter of which differs but little from that of the box. The water is then made to boil, and the steam, penetrating into the box, softens the seeds and facilitates the separation of the tallow. After about a quarter of an hour's exposure to steam the seeds are poured into a stone mortar, where they are stirred about until all the tallow has been separated in a semi-liquid state. It is afterwards poured into a cylinder with a hole at the bottom, through which it is driven by the action of a press. It comes out perfectly white, free from all husks and impurities, and soon becomes solid. The vessel which receives it has been previously moistened and powdered with a red earth, to prevent the cohesion of the tallow. In hot weather the candles made with the latter are apt to become soft and even liquid. To guard against this inconvenience they are dipped in wax. The seed that has undergone the operation above described is exploded, and oil is extracted from them by pressure.

RELIGIOUS PROGRESS OF INDIA.—If we might indicate the present religious state of southern India by a sweeping generalisation, we should say that Brahminism is dying out, whilst Hindooism is assuming more elevated and spiritual forms. The caste system altogether is giving way. The Brahmins are beginning to look with disdain on the priestly profession; the Scodras are throwing off the domination of the Brahmins; whilst the hundred and one subdivisions, or communities, which are also dignified by the name of castes, are losing that hold which they had exercised upon their individual members in days of yore, or even in the days of Dubois. The same improved sense of right and wrong which led the native reformers to spiritualise the old myths, and to regard the images of the deities and their incarnations more as objects to fix the attention of the worshipper than as the actual gods themselves. Then, again, the Goroos, though still commanding an outward respect, are no longer reverenced from the heart as they used to be in olden time. Their presence is regarded as a restraint, and their exactions as a burden. In other words, these are the dawns of religious movement which only requires leaders, and if the experience of history be worth anything at all, those leaders will in due time appear. The doctrines of Buddha still linger in the land, and a spark would kindle them into flames. It may be ten years or twenty, but a religious revolution is certain in the end, and, as we believe, it will come, not from without, but from within.—*Bengal Hurkura.*

THE EXPLOSION AT EDMUND'S MAIN COLLIERY.

In the ILLUSTRATED TIMES of the 13th inst. we published the particulars of a terribly fatal explosion at the Edmund's Main Colliery, near Barnsley, Yorkshire. We now print a couple of Engravings illustrative of this sad occurrence, one of a class with which the British public are unfortunately but too familiar. One of our Engravings is a general view of the colliery, and represents the state of matters after the second and most fatal explosion took place in the mine; the other exhibits the scene in the pit when the bodies of the killed and wounded men whom it was possible to rescue were brought to "bank." The sad character of the latter scene it would be vain to attempt to describe: here were wives anxiously looking for husbands, mothers for sons, sisters for brothers, and, it may have been, sweethearts for those who were no less dear to them. The excitement was naturally very great, but the people were withal more orderly and less demonstrative than might have been expected in such unhappy circumstances. The heroism so frequently displayed by the miners on such sad occasions was conspicuous on this. Band after band of gallant fellows volunteered to descend the shaft and endeavour to deliver their comrades who were immured in what became to upwards of sixty persons a living tomb; but, after the sacrifice of the lives of several who had gone on this errand of mercy, and the hopelessness of further efforts became apparent, the officials refused to allow any more risks to be run, and such attempts were desisted from. When all hope of saving the lives of the persons still in the pit had departed, and the only chance of recovering their bodies depended on the extinction of the kindled by the explosion, large quantities of water were allowed to run into the shaft, and this with the natural accumulation of water at the bottom from the suspension of pumping, it was expected would "drown out" the flames, and so allow of measures being taken to reach the workings where the unfortunate fellows had perished. This hope appears, however, to have been futile, for the fire still continued to burn, and a few days ago another explosion occurred, still further damaging the mine and rendering the work of clearing it out more difficult and tedious. This, of course, has prevented the recovery of the bodies of those who perished; and it is feared that even some little time must still elapse before it will be possible to accomplish this necessary but melancholy duty. The men who were injured and managed to escape have received every attention that was possible; and it is believed that most of them will be restored to health in a short time.

The subjoined particulars regarding the scene of this catastrophe and its causes are copied from a local contemporary:—"The Edmund's Main Colliery is situated about two miles and a half in a south-westerly direction from Barnsley. The upper works of the mine are placed within a short distance of the South Yorkshire coal line to Worksop and district, which runs parallel with the Dearne and Dove Canal. The workings extend east and west for about 1800 yards, and in the east they were being extended to establish a connection with the new 'Swalth'-shaft, which also belongs to the colliery company. There are two downcast-shafts and one upcast, which is about 250 yards distant from the others, and is a very large and well-built shaft. The managing partner is Mr. Joseph Mitchell, who was assisted by his son and the general steward of the mine, a man named Lawton, universally respected for his experience and skill in mining affairs. The mine has been in operation about nine years, and the quantity of coal got from the seam, which is here 9 ft. thick, has been very large. A branch line runs to the pit-mouth from the South Yorkshire line, and the colliery has been one of the most productive upon the line. The number of men and boys employed was slightly over 300, and some parts of the mine were worked day and night, in order to supply the demand for the coal. The explosion was caused, as we have previously stated, by a fire in the eastern extremity of the workings, which were being driven to connect the mine with the Swalth-shaft. It seems that the men who were engaged in driving the heading determined to "blast" the coal with gunpowder, and accordingly a hole was drilled in the seam, and a charge of powder inserted in the usual manner. The duty of "firing the shot," as the miners term the exploding of the charge, devolved upon men who were specially selected for the purpose. At a period which cannot be exactly ascertained, but is variously stated at between half-past seven and nine in the morning,

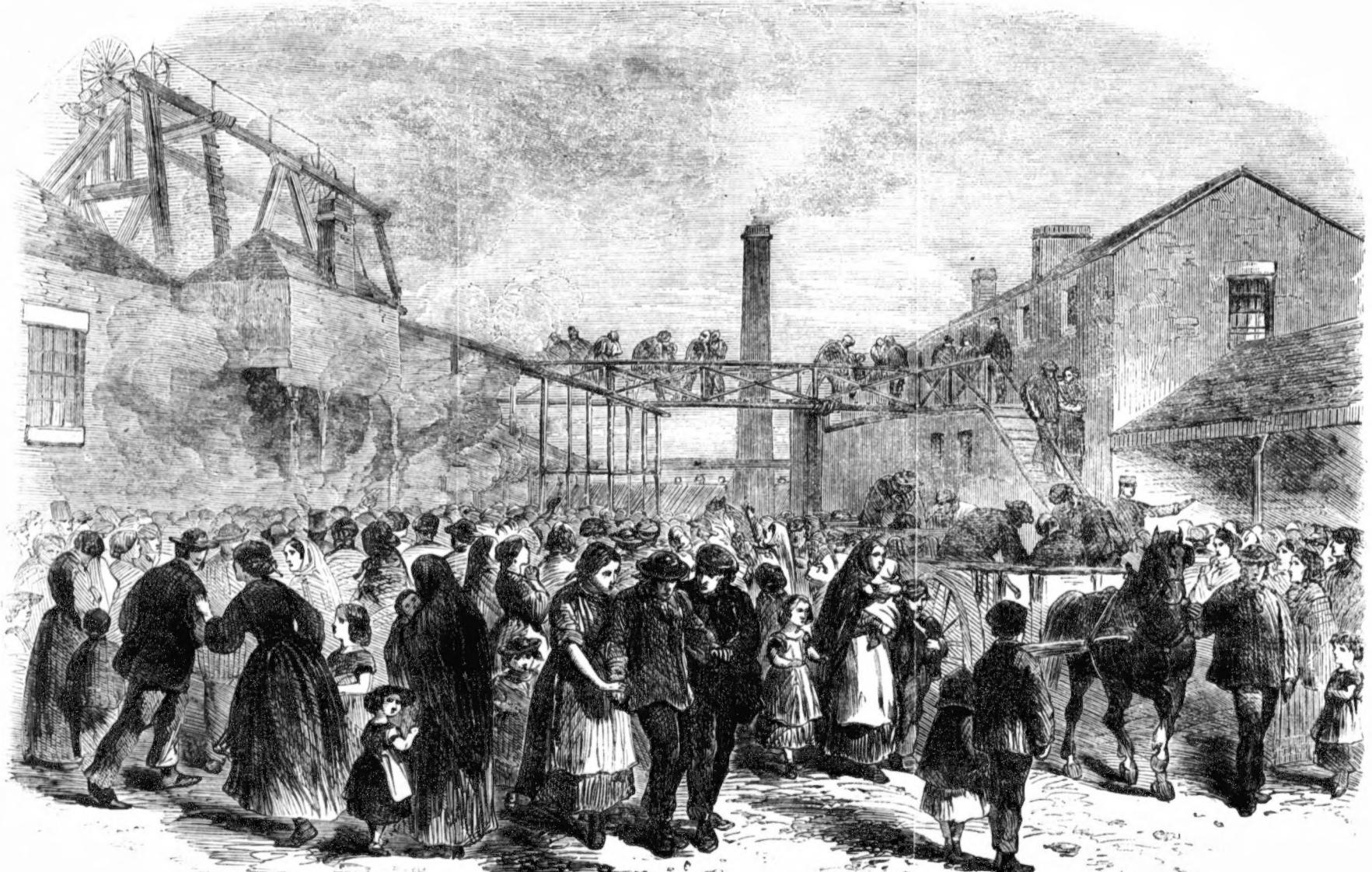


GENERAL VIEW OF EDMUND'S MAIN COLLIERY, SHOWING THE SECOND EXPLOSION.

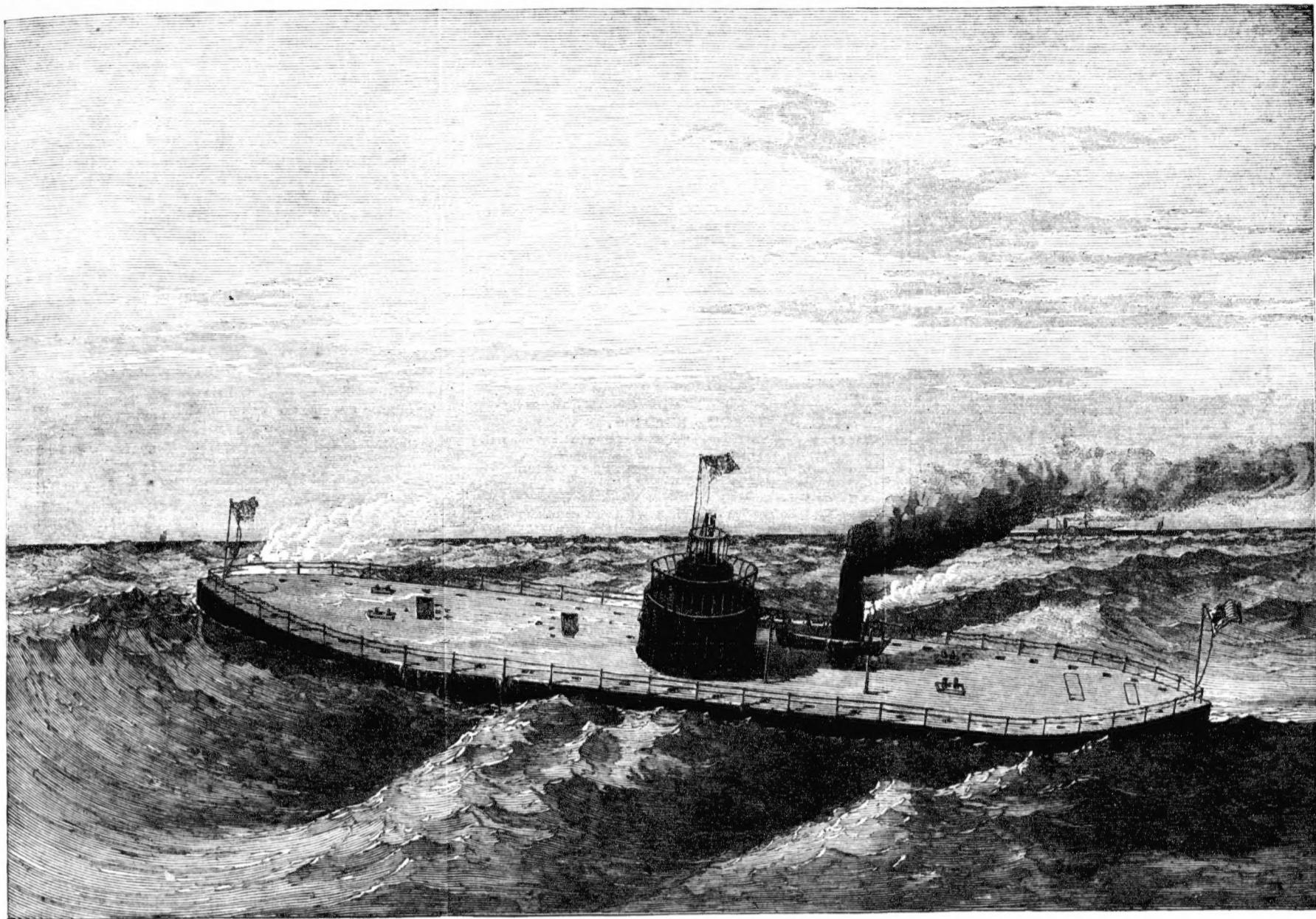
the shot was fired by a man named Walton, and the result was most disastrous. The explosion ignited the gas, which was issuing very freely from the newly-cut face of the coal, blew down several brattices (air courses), and finally set fire to the seam of coal. The condition of this part of the workings was peculiarly dangerous in consequence of the incessant emission of gas, and it certainly seems unaccountable why blasting operations were allowed to be carried on there. The men who were at work in the board-gate, where the shot was fired, did all in their power to extinguish the fire and restore the ventilation. But they were unsuccessful, although at first the fire spread very slowly, and there were hopes entertained that it would be extinguished before it became necessary to alarm the workmen. Here we must pause in the

narrative of the explosion to say that this feeling of confidence, that 'there was no danger, and that no one need be warned,' was the primary cause of the lamentable loss of life that has taken place. The facts were these:—There were 238 men and boys at work in an extensive mine; a fire had broken out in one part of the workings, and the means of ventilation were becoming seriously impaired. It was clear, therefore, that the persons in authority were bound to make the men acquainted with the extent and imminence of the danger, and have the pit cleared as speedily as possible. Had this been done, it is undoubtedly the case that there was sufficient time to have enabled every one of the workmen to reach the pit-bank before the explosion at eleven took place. Statements vary upon the

question as to whether any warning at all was given to the men. Some of the miners, who were working near the scene of the fire, were made acquainted with the ominous fact by their 'hurra,' and several of them proceeded at once to the pit bottom, and were drawn to bank. But many others, who were working at a great distance from the fire, complain that they were never warned of the danger, and that they made their escape with great difficulty from the spreading of the deadly gas. They affirm that the men who were engaged in the attempt to put out the fire were desirous of 'doing a clever thing' by putting out the flames without causing the men to leave their work. Where the responsibility rests it is not for us to say; we confine ourselves to a simple statement of the facts of the case."



SCENE IN THE PIT-YARD AFTER THE FIRST EXPLOSION.—REMOVAL OF THE WOUNDED MEN.



THE FEDERAL IRON-PLATED WAR-STEAMER PASSAIC.

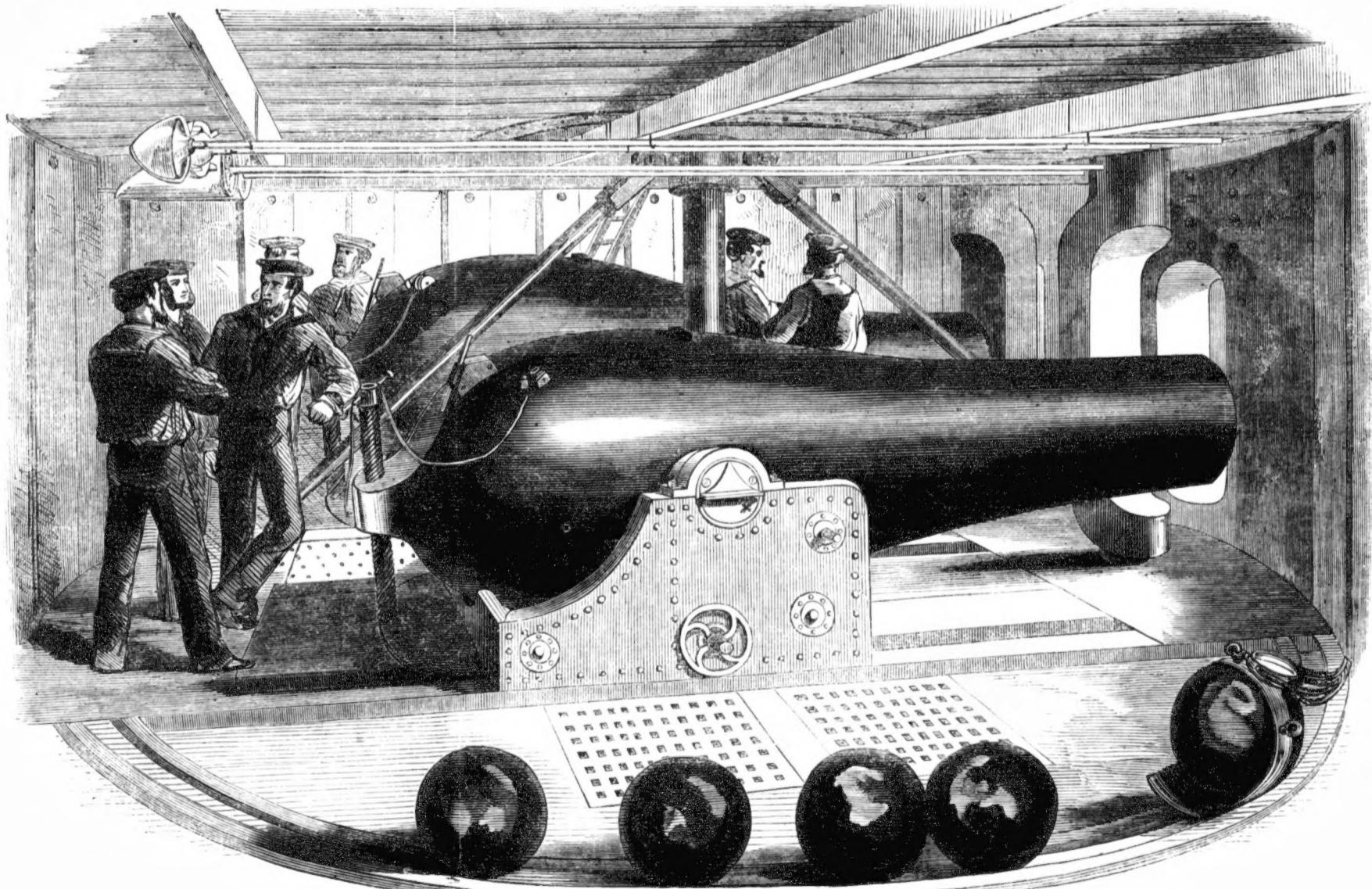
AMERICAN IRONSIDES

THE PASSAIC.

THE Americans pride themselves, and not without reason, on doing everything on a grand scale; whether they are as successful in being efficient and wise as in being "big" is another question. They were the last people in the world to take to building iron-clad ships of war,

but they have made up for this delay in "going ahead" at the work in a way which leaves the slower people of the Old World far behind. It is scarcely a year since the launch of the Monitor, the first ship of its class which the Federal Government possessed, and for which they were indebted to private enterprise; and now they have built, or are building, close upon twenty of these vessels. Various modifications have been introduced in the construction of iron-clad ships

since the Monitor led the way; but the principle still adhered to in America is the turret on the deck, where the armament of the vessel is placed, and the aim has been less to obtain a good seagoing ship than to build an effective battery for offensive operations on the coasts and rivers of the Great Western continent. While we in Europe have been striving to combine the qualities of the old class of war-ships with the invulnerability and



INTERIOR OF THE TURRET OF THE PASSAIC.

powerful armaments of the new, the Americans have almost entirely, as we have already said, confined their efforts to the production of machines which, if unsuited for voyaging, are, as they believe, admirably calculated to answer the purpose for which they are constructed—namely, to act as batteries either for defence or for attack on their own coasts. This course may be wise in the circumstances of America, which, although she owns—or did own—a large extent of seaboard, has little necessity at present to send her war-ships on distant cruises; but as our position is totally different, we are perhaps equally wise in adhering to the models already adopted by us in such vessels as the *Warrior*, *Black Prince*, *Defiance*, and others of the same class. For purposes of home defence, a fleet of batteries on the principle proposed by Captain Coles will probably be by-and-by constructed; but for ships to traverse the ocean we must have vessels possessing more or less of the seagoing qualities of the *Warrior* and her sister ships.

The latest completed specimen of the Yankee ironside is the gunboat *Passaic*, which is constructed on the turret principle, and of which very glowing accounts have been published in the American papers. In order to keep our readers *en rapport* with what is being done in this line in America, we this week print two Engravings of this vessel, one showing the *Passaic* herself, and the other the interior of the turret. Our Transatlantic friends deem the turret the greatest engineering achievement of the time, and declare that the operations of this structure and its monster guns will mark an era in the history of naval warfare. The hull of the *Passaic* is in model similar to other vessels of her class, and need not be particularly described, the turret being the main peculiarity she presents. This structure, composed of plate iron, is 23ft. outside diameter, 9ft. high, 11in. thick, the entire weight being 240 tons. It might be supposed that such a ponderous mass could only be turned round by being placed on friction rollers; yet this expedient has not been resorted to. Captain Ericsson, deeming such complication incompatible with the solidity necessary to withstand the shocks of modern projectiles, boldly places the turret with its smooth lower edge on a broad ring in the deck, and trusts to his powerful mechanism within to cause the stupendous mass to rotate on its base. The gunner, placed behind the breach when the gun is to be aimed, simply raises or depresses a light handle and the gun instantly moves in the direction he wishes. The exact point being attained, a retrograde half-movement of the handle at once arrests the rotation of the turret and leaves the gun directed to the desired object.

But the result of Captain Ericsson's conception does not stop here. The porthole of the turret is far less in width than the diameter of the muzzle of the gun, and, consequently, the gun must be fired within the turret. The proposition to discharge the largest cannon afloat within the narrow space of this cylindrical iron chamber without putting the muzzle through—not even *into* the porthole—is so startling that nothing short of positive practical demonstration could prove its soundness. The result of two careful trials, the second and final one made on the 15th inst., has realised every expectation. The smoke is effectually kept out, and the noise from the discharge of the monster gun within the turret is less than that of an ordinary field-piece. The means by which these results are attained it is intended to keep secret; but it will, we suspect, be impossible to do so for any great length of time. The following account of the experiments made on board the *Passaic* we copy from a New York journal:—

On arriving at a point opposite Fort Washington the *Passaic* was headed in toward the western shore of the river, under the towering cliffs of the Palisades, when, selecting an uninhabited spot, it was determined to see the effect against the rocky bulwarks of the Hudson. The steamer was stopped, and the 15-in. gun was loaded with 20lb. of powder and a hollow shot. After the gun was run out to the side of the turret and all was ready, it was fired, the ball ricochetting along the water a few times, then striking the rocks, causing them to fly like so much chaff, followed by a terrible echo, which in its force resembled the explosion of a powder-mill. The noise outside the turret was terrible, while inside there was no concussion of any account, and the noise certainly did not exceed that which would have been produced by the firing of an ordinary pistol.

Every one was surprised and unwilling at the first trial to say much; all were anxious to see the effect of a full service-charge of 34lb. of powder. The gun only receded 17in.

Second Firing.—The second time the gun was loaded with 35lb. of powder and a hollow shot. It was fired, receding 3ft. 10in., producing no unpleasant concussion, and, as before, there was scarcely any smoke in the air. Several of the spectators who were in the turret at the first firing were outside this time to see the working of the shot, which had been spoken of by those who were outside at the time; but the noise outside was so unpleasant that they preferred to be inside the next time the gun was fired, and accordingly they went in and remained there through the remainder of the firing.

Third Firing.—The third time the gun was fired it was charged with 35lb. of powder and a hollow shot. The recoil was only 2ft. 8in. The same results were obtained without trouble; in fact, it was much pleasanter inside than outside of the turret. No noise was perceptible tending to discomfort either on the berth-deck or in the engine-room.

Fourth Firing.—The fourth and last time the gun was fired it was charged with 35lb. of powder and a solid shot, the first one fired from a gun of this size with a full service charge. The result was precisely the same, the recoil being only 2ft. 8in., and no smoke or noise in the turret.

Our second Engraving represents the turret cut in two through the vertical plane, the nearest half supposed to be removed in order to afford a full view of the interior. The enormous guns, Dahlgren's 15-inch, each weighing 42,000lb., are seen in perspective, resting on light elegant carriages, made of wrought iron. By means of very simple mechanism within the carriages, the constructor enables three men of moderate strength to handle these ponderous pieces with great facility. To the left of the muzzle of the nearest gun will be seen the port stopper, a bent block of wrought iron, supported by a pivot, on which it turns so readily that one man can bring its broad face before the porthole in less than five seconds, thereby effectually shutting out the enemy's projectiles. The enormous balls, of 425lb. weight, will be seen conveniently arranged within curved guides round the base of the turret, a broad-jointed ring for handling these terrible projectiles being also represented. Our readers can form a good idea of the size of the guns, 4ft. diameter outside measure, 15in. within, by comparison with the gunners standing on the left.

THE KOKUK AND CATSKILL.

On the 6th inst., the *Whitney* Battery *Kokuk* was successfully launched from the Dry Dock Ironworks, New York. The *Kokuk* is a formidable ram. She is, however, smaller than the Ericsson Monitors, 159ft. 6in. over all, including the ram, which is 5ft. long. She has a beam of 36ft., with a depth of hold of 13ft. 6in., and draws 9ft. of water. Her sides slope inwards at an angle of thirty-seven degrees, to shed the enemy's shot. She is built of iron, and her armor extends nearly 4ft. below the water-line. The horizontal deck is 5ft. above the water-line. Her propulsive power is furnished by two propellers and two engines of 500-horse power. The hull of the vessel is constructed of half-inch rolled iron. She has three keelsons running the whole length of the vessel, and two fore and aft bulkheads, leaving on each side a space, and forming an inner skin, which would probably keep out the water in the event of the outer skin being pierced by shot. In addition to these she has two bulkheads, one forward and one aft, which can be filled with water, so as to settle the vessel down while in action. These can be filled in fifteen minutes, and pumped out in forty minutes. The vessel is submerged 1ft. by the appliance of these water-tanks. The turrets are immovable, the gun revolving to the three ports pierced in each turret. They weigh each forty tons, and are built of a groundwork of $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. rolled plates like the hull, covered with bars of iron 4in. thick, standing edgeways, placed 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. apart, the interstices being filled with yellow pine. Over all this are three plates each 6in. thick—the whole structure bolted together with 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. bolts, with countersunk heads, 1ft. apart. The turrets, therefore, are 6in. thick. Each turret is to have three ports, with heavy shutters, working in two halves—one port on each side and one forward and aft. Each turret will have an 11-in. gun, carrying a 180lb. shot. These guns move on revolving slides, which are placed on a floor 20in. below the level of the deck, thus giving a greater height to the turrets, which are 20ft. in diameter at the base, 14ft. at the top—being cone-shaped—and 8ft. 8in. high. The rudder and propeller are guarded by an overhanging structure and a wrought-iron guard on the afterpart. The little vessel will carry 100 men, and has capacity in her two magazines for two hundred

11-in. shot, and one hundred and fifty 11-in. shell, with shrapnel and canister, small ammunition and powder in proportion.

Another formidable vessel, the *Catskill*, was launched on the same day. The form of this vessel is not unlike the *Monitor* except that her lines are finer, giving more speed and greater buoyancy. The iron hull is built of $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. iron plating, fastened on to a frame of angle iron, 6in. wide, by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick. From a point 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. below the water line a shelf extends outward, on which rests the wooden backing for the armour-plates. This is covered by five wrought-iron plates, each 1in. thick, and 5ft. long by 5ft. wide. In addition to the armour-plating, the *Catskill* has wrought-iron stringers 4in. thick inserted under the plating for a distance of 50ft. from the bow, making the armour 9in. thick, and giving the vessel immense power as a ram. The plating on the deck is composed of two plates, 1in. in thickness, rendering it bombproof. The turret is 21ft. in diameter and 9ft. in length. It is pierced for two guns, which stand parallel with each other in the turret.

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TO OUR READERS.

AT the commencement of the New Year various novel and interesting features, comprising, it is believed, many marked improvements, will be introduced into the pages of the *ILLUSTRATED TIMES*. A fresh infusion of artistic talent will render itself apparent in the increased spirit and greater variety of style of the illustrations; and, by means of a more careful condensation of the ordinary news, space will be found each week for a couple of pages of highly interesting literary matter, that shall give to the *ILLUSTRATED TIMES* a speciality of its own. This will comprise, from time to time, Original Stories, both sentimental and humorous; Essays on current topics; Sketches of Society in its varied phases; Satirical and other Poems; Descriptions of Out-of-the-way Scenes in familiar and unknown places; Art Criticisms and Anecdotes; Curious Scraps of Antiquarian Information; and comparatively unknown Episodes of family romance;—In short, readable articles of the most varied character, adapted to the diverse tastes of our large circle of subscribers, and which, whenever necessary, will be accompanied by appropriate illustrations. Among the writers who will contribute to this department of the Paper may be mentioned George Augustus Sala, James Hannay, Augustus Mayhew, Sheldon Chadwick, Edmund Yates, John Hollingshead, Sutherland Edwards, Thomas Archer, Sidney Blanchard, Edmund Blanchard, Edward Draper, J. Bain Frieswell, James Greenwood, and W. B. Rands.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1862.

AMERICAN DIPLOMACY.

A CURIOUS collection of despatches has recently been published in New York, and summarised in the American and English journals. It contains correspondence between Mr. Seward and Mr. Adams, and also between Mr. Seward and Lord John Russell. It is remarkable chiefly as affording a clue to the present history of America by furnishing an insight of the minds to which the government of the Northern States is intrusted. Viewed under this aspect, the letters of which the collection consists can scarcely fail to be interesting.

It is true that two different constructions can be placed upon the extraordinary tenor of this curious mass of correspondence; but we are loath to admit that many of the letters could possibly have been written under such gross ignorance or misapprehension of English feeling towards America as they pretend to exhibit. "Less than three years ago," writes Mr. Seward, so lately as the 3rd of November last, "all England showed itself desirous of friendship with America, and a similar desire may before long recur." It is probably with the intention of hastening such a pleasing recurrence that Mr. Seward now publishes a letter, dated in January last, from Mr. Clay to Mr. Seward, in which the writer urges an offer to the Canadians of an American Union, and also the sending of men and money to stir up revolt in Ireland. "Vengeance," according to Mr. Clay, "will sooner or later overtake England, the perfidious aristocrat." "The revolution," says Mr. Seward in June last, "is approaching its end, and proof becomes irresistible that, had it succeeded, its success would have been due to the assistance derived from the English people." The President is represented as thinking it desirable that the English Government should consider the probable sentiments of England and America at the close of the war. In August Mr. Seward declares that "a war with England could not fail to unite North and South."

We repeat that we cannot believe that the writers of such letters as those we have quoted from can actually believe in the truth of such statements as those they have committed to paper and allowed to be published with all the solemnity of official authority. Had it been true, for instance, that a war with England would be hailed with such satisfaction in America as instantly to unite North and South, besides probably leading to the admission of Canada into the States, how is it possible to explain the fact that such a war has not been at once declared, in order to save the rancour and bloodshed of a civil contest and the contingent division of the States? Can it be for want of provocation on the part of England? Mr. Seward's own letters show that at least he considers America has sufficient pretext. Is it in the hope of preserving peace after the suppression so rapidly approaching) of the Southern "rebellion?" The President himself hints the probability that the close of that war is likely to bring out the mutual sentiments of the two countries.

But what does it all mean? Why all this display of animosity and bitterness, this republication of old despatches, rapid and foolish enough when written, and doubly so at the present moment? We have a theory upon this matter, which

probably is only that of a large majority of intelligent Englishmen. We believe that the respectable and reflective among the Northern citizens are beginning to be heartily sick of this cruel, prolonged, and fratricidal war; that they are disgusted with the manner in which it has been conducted, and ripe for the acknowledgment of Secession; that they are kept perforce from the free expression of their opinions upon this important topic, but that, nevertheless, their sentiments are working their way even amongst those orders who were at first the most enthusiastic clamourers for a prosecution of the war. It is to secure the aid of these classes, of the bullies who haunt the bars of the hotels and all other places of public resort in America, to pamper them with the hope of indulgence of a long-cherished, ignorant enmity, to secure their aid in enforcing silence upon those whose voices and arguments have already begun to be heard and listened to with attention, and especially to hold out to Irish emigrants of the Mitchel class the fond anticipation of a successful rebellion against England, that this extraordinary combination of Yankee diplomacy, sentiment, and prophecy of the President's thoughts and Mr. Clay's ideas as to the best manner of carrying out vengeance upon England has been put forward at this particular period, just when the generous and sympathising among our Transatlantic cousins are vying with each other to alleviate the distress which is a reflection of their own calamity. Such a publication is, to say the least, suggestive of a crisis which the European Powers may strive in vain to retard when the present whispered hopes of reconciliation and peace, and the murmurs of common sense shall swell into one overwhelming outcry against those misguided rulers of a great country who have destroyed her commerce superseded her laws, ruined her finances, and driven forth her sons to hopeless, inglorious, and fratricidal slaughter.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL FAMILY left Windsor on Saturday last for Osborne, where the Court will spend Christmas.

THE PRINCE OF WALES is about to present his future bride with a magnificent dress of Alençon lace. The value is said to be £1500.

ON THE 16TH THE KING OF THE BELGIANS entered on his seventy-second year, and the good people of Brussels celebrated the occasion with great and sincere rejoicings.

IT IS RUMOURED IN PARIS that as soon as the French obtain any decided success in Mexico the Emperor will order home the troops.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN is in favour of Archbishop Hughes, of New York, as the future Pope.

AT ST. PETERSBURG the cold is intense, but there is an absence of snow.

LORD PALMERSTON has intimated his willingness to accept the invitation from the citizens of Edinburgh on his visit to Scotland for inauguration as Lord Rector of Glasgow. University, provided his business engagements will allow of his doing so.

AT ANTIGUA, in consequence of the prevalence of dysentery, the native remedy of aloe-juice boiled in milk has been tried with remarkable success.

A LETTER FROM TURIN states that the finances of Italy are in such a satisfactory condition that the new loan will not be required, in all probability, for severa. months.

A WINE-MERCHANT who appeared against a War-office clerk in the London Court of Bankruptcy stated that the bankrupt had admitted that he had drunk as many as twenty bottles of wine at a sitting!

THE TOTAL QUANTITY OF MINERALS carried on railways in the United Kingdom last year amounted to 63,604,434 tons.

GARIBALDI'S HYMN was called for by the audience the other night at the Andrea Doria Theatre, Genoa, and received with much applause. The orchestra afterwards played the "Marseillaise," but this was hissed.

WAGGON-LOADS OF GOODS are continually arriving at the Royal Victoria Hospital, at Netley, Hants, preparatory to the occupation of the northern wing of the building next spring.

THE BISHOP OF TRENT (Tyrol) has just declared, in a pastoral letter, that it is his absolute duty to remove from his diocese the adherents of all non-Catholic forms of worship, in order to preserve the Tyrol from heresy.

THE DOLPHIN, the Vulcan, and the Neptune, well-known steamers on the Clyde, have just been sold, it is believed, to agents of the Confederate Government.

La France states that Don Ferdinand of Portugal has directed the various Portuguese Legions to intimate formally to all the Powers that he has positively determined not to accept the throne of Greece.

TWO NEW BANKS will, it is expected, soon be opened in Southampton—viz., a branch of the London and County Bank and a branch of the projected London and South-Western Bank.

THE SOCIETE DES GENS DE LETTRES OF PARIS has elected into its body Mr. William L. Hughes, the translator of Poe and other English writers into French. Mr. Hughes is the first Englishman who has been made a member of that society.

GARIBALDI arrived at Leghorn from Pisa on Saturday, and left immediately for Capri, stress of weather, however, compelled him to return to Leghorn. The General has forwarded a subscription, accompanied by a letter, to the fund being raised in Italy on behalf of the distressed operatives of Lancashire.

THE GOVERNOR OF GUANAXUATO, according to intelligence from Mexico, has determined on erecting a statue in honour of General Prim, to which the majority of the members of the Mexican Congress are reported to have subscribed.

THE BENCHERS OF GRAY'S INN have resolved that the arms of Mr. Napier, the ex-Lord Chancellor of Ireland, shall be placed in a compartment of one of the windows of their hall. The right hon. gentleman has acknowledged the compliment in a letter to the treasurer.

THE ACADEMIC SENATE of the University of Erlangen, in Bavaria, some time since elected Dr. Herz, a Jew, and one of the most distinguished physicians in that country, as Professor at the Faculty of Medicine. Even the professors of theology themselves voted in his favour, but the Bavarian Government has refused to ratify the election of a Jew to an academic chair.

AT THE NOTTINGHAM ASSIZES, the Rev. Thomas Cartwright, a clergyman of the Church of England, aged thirty-two, Curate of St. Mary's, Nottingham, was charged with forging and uttering a bill of exchange for £20, upon Mr. Peter Drummond, of Stirling, in August last, and sentenced to three years' penal servitude.

A SINGULAR COLLIERY ACCIDENT was occasioned by the gale on Friday morning week at the John Pit, near Wigton. Six men at the bottom of the pit had stepped into the iron cage for the purpose of ascending the shaft, when a tub of cannel coal was blown from the mouth upon the cage. Five of the men escaped, but one poor fellow was crushed to death.

WORKMEN are now engaged in placing in the Gothic arcades of the grand front of Notre Dame the eight remaining statues to complete the twenty-eight which stood there previously to 1793, and which represent as many Kings of France from Clovis up to Philip Augustus.

A LETTER FROM ODESSA states that the harbour and roadstead are so blocked up with ice that the import and export by sea is suspended, and, unless a very marked change takes place in the temperature, will remain so for a considerable time.

THE HON. MR. STUART WORTLEY, formerly Recorder of London, has come forward for Reigate in the Conservative interest. Mr. Wilkinson, who once sat for Lambeth, is to be brought forward as the Radical candidate.

THE PASSPORT SYSTEM has been abolished in Spain.

EIGHT PRISONERS have just escaped from the Vicaria Prison, at Naples, by sawing the iron bars of a window which looked on the road. They were all condemned for murder or robbery, and were the most dangerous characters. About a hundred other prisoners might also have escaped, but why they did not do so is unknown.

WE READ IN A COPENHAGEN LETTER:—"The Royal Artillery, some days ago, made experiments with gunpowder made of paper, which turned out a very fine, common packing-paper was in the course of ten or fifteen minutes transformed into a very powerful kind of gunpowder, and a number of different shots were fired with it. The invention, which seems to be very interesting, belongs to a foreigner."

GEORGE RUXTON, the owner, and James Bertie, the captain, of the merchant-ship Joseph Howe, were brought before the Lord Mayor, on Saturday last, on the charge of conspiring to defraud an insurance company of £500 by fraudulent representations. A good deal of evidence was taken, and the Lord Mayor committed both to Newgate for trial, but consented to accept bail.

CAPTAIN ROBERT SCOTT has recently submitted to the Admiralty the plans of a section of a fortified vessel to carry ten Horse-guns, which, from the movements that have taken place at Portsmouth and Shoreham, he will do as much damage upon an armour-plated ship a four hundred

A ST. PETERSBURG PAPER notices the death there, on Nov. 6, 1862, of Mr. Thomas Bradshaw, M.A., of Cambridge, Professor of English Literature in the Imperial Lyceum, and lecturer upon the same subject in the University. Mr. Shaw was only forty-nine years of age, and was greatly beloved and respected in the Russian capital.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

WHEN a man arrives at the age of threescore years and ten his death causes no surprise. The announcement, therefore, that Lord Monson was dead excited little attention. Young men may die; an old man's lease of life is necessarily short. Besides this, Lord Monson was but little known beyond a comparatively limited circle. Hundreds of thousands of Englishmen probably did not know that there was such a Peer. His Lordship was not, though, one of those idle members of the Upper House who never attend unless they are specially summoned. I believe that he was rather a regular attendant. He is succeeded by his eldest son, the Hon. John William Monson, the member for Reigate. There is, therefore, a vacancy for that illustrious borough. The manor and castle of Reigate used to belong to Lord Monson; but it was forfeited during the Civil Wars, and subsequently got into the hands of Earl Somers. Lord Monson lived at Gatton Park, in the neighbourhood of Reigate, and possibly had influence in the borough. Do, however, let us that Earl Somers, who, before the Reform Bill, used to hold this place as a pocket borough, has still much power. I suspect, however, that money is as potent as the noble Earl. Mr. Monson will be no special loss to the House of Commons, though he will be a loss to the Government, of which he was a constant and devoted supporter, Reigate for many years after the Reform Bill returned a Conservative, and Earl Somers is no more than a "Liberal Conservative," but Mr. Monson is described by God as holding "thoroughly Liberal opinions." It is impossible, therefore, to prophesy what Reigate will do. Probably, "Go for him what'll give us the most," as I once heard a story for y-silling freeholder declare it was his intention to do.

Mr. Pope Hennessy, it is well known, has been preparing for his début at the Bar for a year past under the able direction of Mr. Bovill, and, singularly enough, both master and man have appeared during the past week before the world each in a new character—Mr. Hennessy as counsel for rioters, and Mr. Bovill as a rioter. Now, as Hennessy is an Irishman and Bovill an Englishman, the parts have clearly been wrongly distributed. Hennessy should, at all events, have done the rioting business. With respect to Mr. Hennessy's new career, it would not be surprising to me if he were to take a respectable position at the Bar. He is clever, has a subtle intellect, is uncommonly persevering, and can talk; but it will not, I surmise, be a first-rate position, for he is an Ultra-montanist of the strictest school, and he has an Irish accent.

A notable philosopher long ago told us that "it is the everlasting privileges of tools to be governed by wise men," and this, let us hope, is true in the long run. Indeed, it must be so, or the world would inevitably come to grief. But meanwhile it would appear that it is the temporary privilege, or doom, I should rather say, of tools to be governed by knaves. This fact comes out every day in our law courts. Indeed, the folly, the stupidity, the blindness of a large mass of our people are something inexplicable. I allude to the bubble companies, which, notwithstanding all the preaching and teaching which have been dinned into the ears of the public, and all the exposure of these companies, still fill every day flocks of ignorant and stupid gulls for their rapacious nets. Your readers have, of course, read the history of a certain gold-mining company, which was lately developed on a certain trial (one is obliged to be thus cautious and circumlocutory for obvious reasons). Well, no doubt said readers shrugged their shoulders when they perused this history; but let me tell them that there really is nothing rare or uncommon in it. On the contrary, this gold-mining company is only a sample of a large crop of swindling associations which annually spring up. I could count at least a dozen now before the public quite as bad as this gold-mining company. Indeed, these swindles may be easily detected if people would but take the trouble to inquire before they invested their money. Look at the list of directors— inquire who they are and what they are? Here, for example, is Lord George Pumpkin—who is he? Has he any capital? Not a stiver. Go and ask his tailor. And here is old Major Shufletton. Why, the man's name stinks on "Change." He is a regular professional set-up of companies—lives by this work, in fact. But here, now, is a company whose prospectus lies before me, which at a glance one can see is started bona fide and upon a sound basis. How do I know? Why, because there is on the directory a score of City men whose names are a sufficient and substantial guarantee for the character of the association. O, fools! when will you be wise?

The old town of Romsey is evidently a pet place with Lord Palmerston. It was here, if I mistake not, that he uttered his famous saying, "Dirt is only manure in the wrong place." It was here that his Lordship "answered," as Mr. Drummond said, "for the immaculate conception of babies." And only last week his Lordship condescended to take the chair at a dinner of agriculturists at the old-fashioned White Horse Inn in this quiet, insignificant town, and lectured the farmers pleasantly on the improvidence of growing "Conch"—called "Twitch" in Basque vernacular—and "Charlock," and chided them for being so behindhand in farming in Hampshire, as compared with the agriculturists of some other counties. Hear how pleasantly and wisely his Lordship discourse. "There is no doubt," he said, "about the fundamental principle of farming, and that principle is, you must keep your land clear, because weeds cannot grow without nourishment, and the nourishment of which the weeds rob the soil is the nourishment which ought to go to the plant." True, most true, my Lord; everlasting truth—a truth, though, perhaps of wider application than your Lordship thought at the time. There is the soil moral, soil political, as well as the soil of which you spoke. The soil political, no; how many weeds have we there? useless offices, expensive ceremonies, &c. Charlock, as your Lordship said, makes a turnip field look very bright and gay, but it is mischievous to the crop. And so in the State you will see, if you look around you, not a few bright and gay weeds, which are ornamental enough, but which do rob the soil of nourishment which, &c. But, as in Hampshire you are improving, so, unquestionably, we are in the State.

The "last words" of the commissioners of the late International Exhibition are in accordance with all their other speeches and deeds—empty and pretentious; and these solemn wisecracks have again been compelled to swallow the leek with their usual want of grace. When they made their pompously-regretful announcement that the distribution of prizes could not take place in Captain Fowkes's barn, owing to the difficulties of lighting and warming the building, the astute directors of the Crystal Palace (and a cleverer man than Mr. Bowley for the management of such a thorough "show" as the Sydenham glasshouse has become does not exist) wrote and offered their building, pointing out its admirable capabilities for the object sought. Driven thus into a corner, the commissioners were forced to admit that, besides the warming and lighting arrangements, there were "other difficulties." And so ends the great South Kensington sham, the Dilkean-cum-Cole bazaar, dying away like a damp squib, without any fizz! Oh, how wise in their generation were the managing committee of the Crystal Palace when they sent to the right-about their high-art advisers and engaged Mr. Bowley to manage their booth!—when they went in to please the eye and not to bore the

ear; when they put Blondin on the high-rope, stuffed their transept with Christmas trees covered with pendent bonbons, stuck on high Mr. Deasy's prismatic mirror, and engaged Mr. Nelson Lee, with other "talented disciples of Memus" (whatever that may mean), to make fun for the children!

In a notice of the "Invitations" entertainment at the Egyptian Hall the *Athenaeum* mentions some pictures "said to be by Mr. Fitch, Mr. Leech, and Mr. Stone." What is the meaning of "said to be"? Either the pictures are or are not the work of the gentlemen named. If they be not, the advertisement is a gross deception; if they be, the doubt implied in the *Athenaeum* para is ungenerous and offensive.

Dr. Gray, of the British Museum, and of gorilla controversial celebrity, has been accommodated with that peculiarly British blow known as "one for himself" by Sir Rowland Hill. The Doctor, it appears, in a recent booklet, called "A Handbook of Postage-stamps," hints that he really invented the penny-postage scheme, but that, being very much occupied at the Museum, he made Sir Rowland, then a man of leisure, acquainted with his details, and left him to work them out. Sir Rowland, in reply, says, "If this strange story is not intended for a joke, it amounts to one of the most extraordinary hallucinations on record. But, however this may be, most assuredly the statement has not the slightest foundation in fact." Melancholy will probably mark the Doctor, as well as his illustrious namesake, for her own on his reading this reply.

There is, I fear, too much truth in the report that Mr. Abraham Solomon, the talented artist of "Waiting for the Verdict," &c., has died abroad. He was spending the autumn at Biarritz, whence came rumours of his illness, and on Monday the announcement of his death. As a painter of genre subjects Mr. Solomon took, deservedly, high rank, and, although the humour of certain of his popular pictures was perhaps more coarse than subtle, yet such a picture as "First and Second Class," "Waiting for the Verdict," and its companion, "The Acquittal," showed very great power, pathos, and observation. Scarcely any pictures attracted more universal attention at the International Exhibition. In private life Mr. Solomon was remarkable for his warm attachment to his nation, as well as for his never-failing good humour and kind hospitality.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

MR. BOUCICAUT, on Monday last, opened his new theatre (formerly Astley's, now rechristened the Theatre Royal, Westminster), which was a pity, as he had but a scanty audience for its inauguration, the fortnight immediately preceding Christmas being the worst in the theatrical year. The theatre is very pretty, utterly altered from the old "Astley's" of our childhood, well lit by a chandelier intended in the roof on the new principle, light and airy. "To Parents and Guardians" and "The Luck of Lucknow" were the pieces.

Mr. Fechter will probably defer the production of his burlesque until Easter.

MR. BRIGHT AT BIRMINGHAM.—Mr. Bright addressed his constituents at Birmingham last week in a speech devoted to India and the American Union. He pointed out that in 1847 he had demanded a commission to inquire into the cotton cultivation of India, and in 1850 he proposed another in order to remove the evils then ascertained. The first commission was granted, the second refused. He then proposed in 1858 that India should be divided into five great colonies, responsible to the Home Government only; and he believed, if that had been carried out, an entire revolution would have been created in the condition of India. He now holds that the swiftest plan to produce cotton would be to exempt all land growing cotton from taxation for five years. On the American War Mr. Bright expressed his patriotic sympathy, and, in order to remove the evils then ascertained, he proposed the abolition of slavery, and hoped that it would be also the restoration of the continent to a vast confederation, "with one people, one law, one language, and one faith."—Like the Chinese. Mr. Bright apologised for the quality of Indian cotton. He admitted, however, that it was very bad indeed for the workmen, and illustrated their excessive diabolism in a story, which will offend only those who think that men should never pray for the bread they need. "The other day, while a Methodist minister was supplicating the Supreme Being at a prayer meeting, and asking, among other things, for a supply of cotton for the famine-stricken, one man, with a keen sense of what he had suffered, interposed the ejaculation, 'Yea, Lord, but not Sarat.' This man was honest, nearly as honest as the old man, who, falling over a bridge, prayed that God would protect him, "and quickly, for there is no time to spare." Mr. Bright said he thought the probabilities were that there would never again be a crop of cotton grown in America by slave labour for use in this country, and whilst some additions might be made to the supplies from other countries, it was to India that they must chiefly look for the supplies of raw cotton for the future. Without a supply from India he looked upon the restoration of prosperity in Lancashire as distant—most remote, and likely to ruin the whole working population. It may for years make the whole manufacturing and factory property of Lancashire worthless. Alluding to the Alabama, he said that she was built by a member of Parliament, and that our Government ought and could have stopped her departure from Liverpool. He did not blame the Americans for the indignation they had expressed about her. He thus concluded:—"The leaders of this revolt proposed this simple thing—that over a territory forty times as large as England, by this Constitution the blind and bondage of slaves shall be for ever perpetuated. I cannot believe, myself, in such a fate befalling that fair land, stricken as it now is with the ravages of war—I cannot believe that civilisation, in its journey with the sun, will sink into endless night to gratify the ambition of the leaders of this revolt, who seek

To wade through slaughter to a throne,
And half a gate of misery on mankind.

But I have a far other and brighter vision before my gaze. It may be but a vision, but I will still cherish it. I see one vast Confederation stretching from the frozen North in one unbroken line to the glowing South, and from the wild billows of the Atlantic westward to the calmer waters of the Pacific Main; and I see one people, and one law, and one language, and one faith, and over all that wide continent the home of freedom, and a refuge for the oppressed of every race and of every clime."

LOYAL UNTO DEATH.—A Paris correspondent writes:—"It is said that on every occasion. That parrot was set at liberty on the morning of a parrot had been taught at Baron Rothschild's to call out 'Vive l'Empereur' Emperor's arrival, and placed so as to come within the range of the Imperial fowling-pieces. The Emperor, seeing the 'bird of the tropics' come within reach, fired, and the unhappy victim of the great financier's loyalty was exiled, the Emperor was so affected by the incident that he has ordered the poor bird to be staffed and placed in the Galerie des Contemporains at Versailles, as a memento of his visit to Ferrières."

FRANCE, RUSSIA, ENGLAND, AND GREECE.—M. Drouyn de Lhuys, in a circular just published, gives a very old reason for deprecating the election of Prince Alfred to the throne of Greece. It would render Great Britain, he fears, the enemy of the Ottoman empire. It must necessarily, he thinks, encourage the Greeks in ideas of aggression, and would thus necessitate the interference of other Powers and begot schemes for reopening the Eastern question—that is, for dismembering Turkey. Jealousy, therefore, for the Turks, and an extreme concern lest the Sultan should be conspired against by a new enemy, induce the French Government to deprecate the instalment at Athens of a Prince at all connected with England. The nomination of the Duke of Leuchtenberg would not, it seems, excite any such misgivings in the French mind; a Russian Prince wearing the crown of Greece would, it is pretended, be nowise inimical to the Ottomans; England alone is dangerous!

MSS. OF THE POET BURNS.—Some curious letters of Burns the poet have just been disposed of in a sale by auction at Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's, Leicester-square. They consisted of upwards of twenty autograph letters, with some poetry and a commonplace-book. The letters have all, more or less, been used by Dr. Currie in his edition of "Burns's Correspondence," but the originals, just sold, contain many unpublished passages highly illustrative of the genius, peculiarities, and eccentricities of the writer, as well as numerous particulars of the personal history of the poet and his family. Divided into twenty-six lots, they produced over £100. The following interesting items also occurred in the catalogue, and sold at the prices annexed:—Lot 154, a short letter of Alex. Pope, £3 10s.; lot 170, a letter of Roubiliac, the sculptor, £3 15s.; lots 373 and 374, letters of the poet Cowper, £3 14s. and £3 17s.; lot 377, a letter of the ga-guineau Baron Munchausen, whom nine-tenths of our readers have no doubt considered as apocryphal in person as are his narratives, produced £1 7s.

THE ALABAMA.—The Liverpool *Journal of Commerce* says:—"We have been informed that her Majesty's Government have issued orders to their various agents at the various ports of the Western Islands that if the Confederate steamer Alabama, or '290,' should enter any of these ports she is at once to be ordered off, and not allowed to take in coals or provisions. The order further states that if the Alabama should call at Falmouth, or other ports, they are to inform Captain Somers that if, after this notice, he should destroy any merchandise which may be consigned to British merchants in neutral ships, her Majesty's Government shall at once take steps to capture and destroy the steamer under his command."

MR. DISRAELI AND THE "REPRESENTATIVE."

A CURIOUS LITERARY MYTH.

The following is the substance of an article which appeared a few days ago in the *Edinburgh Courant* on the subject of Mr. Disraeli's alleged connection with the *Representative* newspaper, a matter which has been the subject of much misconception and error:—

Few subjects have been discussed with more interest by men of letters in late years than the origin of those mythic stories which are sprinkled pretty thickly over our great and literary history. The serious kind are usually picture-que—the lighter kind amusing; and these qualities, which help to explain their success, also help to prolong it. Criticism at best is an ungracious task; the world dislikes to have its favourite legends dispelled; and the persons whose reputation is affected by them are naturally a very inconsiderable minority. But, after all, as nothing is dearer than truth—even in matters of minor consequence—so nothing is surer to triumph in the long run, or surer to triumph with the applause and sympathy of all honest men.

In the pleasant "Life of Professor Wilson," by his daughter, which we reviewed some time ago in the *Courant*, there occur the following passages (vol. ii., 185), to which we would beg the kindly and particular attention of our readers. The first occurs in a letter from Lockhart to Wilson, written at London, the 23rd of December, 1826:—

"Murray's newspaper concerns seem to go on flourishingly. The title, I am rather of belief, will be 'The Representative,' but he has not yet fixed.

"I shall write you in due time, and at length, as to that business."

The second is a note appended in illustration of Lockhart's statement, by Mrs. Gordon:—

Murray's newspaper concerns did not go on "flourishingly," as may be gathered from the following note:—"With Mr. Benjamin Disraeli as editor, and witty Dr. Maginn for Paris correspondent, John Murray's new daily paper, the *Representative* (price 7d.), began its impudent career on the 25th of January, 1826. It is needless to trace up the history of a dead and buried disaster. After a short and unhappy career of six months, the *Representative* expired of debility on the subsequent 29th of July. The Thames was not on fire and Printing-House-square stood calmly where it had stood. When, in after years, sanguine and speculative projectors enlarged to John Murray on the excellent opening for a new daily paper, he of Albemarle-street would shake his head, and, with rather a melancholy expression of countenance, pointing to a thin folio on his shelves, would say, 'Twenty thousand pounds are buried there!'"—"Histories of Publishing-houses," *Critic*, Jan. 21, 1860.

Now let us say at once that not the least blame attaches to Mrs. Gordon for adopting the story about Mr. Disraeli which she has here adopted from the *Critic*. She is simply, in conformity with the regular historical law in such matters, passing the myth on. The *Critic*, which was her "authority," had been preceded by other authorities equally trustworthy. Thus, so respectable a book as Mr. Charles Knight's "English Cyclopaedia"—in a biographical volume bearing date 1853—contains the subjoined statement in an article on Mr. Disraeli:—

"His first efforts with his pen were in 1820, when he contributed articles to a daily metropolis in newspaper then started in the Tory interest, under the name of the *Representative*."

And the late Mr. Frederick Knight Hunt, in his "History of the Fourth Estate" when narrating the failure, says:—"After a great flourish, the *Representative* made its appearance, B. Disraeli being, it is said, one of the shareholders."

When such a fable begins to be solemnly recognised in our literature, it is time that its real character should be pointed out. And the latest recognition of it having appeared in a Scotch book, we venture to think that the exposure will most properly come from the *Courant*. We know what we are talking about—as responsible men of letters—when we say that Mr. Disraeli never edited the *Representative*; never contributed a line to it; and cannot in any way be held responsible for its failure. The whole story of his editing or contributing to that journal is a pure fable as any in the first decade of Livy.

It is, indeed—after one has become certain of the falsity of the story—a very curious reflection how anybody should have believed it. When the *Representative* was projected Mr. Disraeli was only nineteen. When it appeared, he had written nothing. And it died before he came of age! Not one of the men who has told the tale of his editorship seems to have reflected on the improbability that a man like old Mr. John Murray—full of sense and experience, and having a great sum of money at stake—would select for the editor of a new London daily newspaper an unknown youth—however brilliant—barely out of his teens. Mr. Murray had, of course, published for the elder Disraeli; and a son of that eminent and favourite writer might well have access to his circle and knowledge of his plans.

The question of the origin and diffusion of this curious myth will, we suspect, occupy more than one or two pages in the future literary history of the country. Our readers have already seen that when Lockhart wrote to Wilson, as above quoted, he was evidently in the secret of the *Representative's* concerns; and if we had the promised letter which he was to write "in due time" and "at length" to "that business," perhaps some curious deductions might be made from it. The suggestion that Lockhart himself was the editor of the *Representative*, and that he may have been recommended to the *Post* by Canning, is new to our literature. To edit a quarterly review simultaneously with a daily paper was a feat worthy of his rare talents; and we must not be surprised if he sold nothing in his "Life of Scott," or elsewhere, of that part of the undertaking which failed. If he made the young Disraeli the scapegoat of the *Representative's* failure it was a "misification," not perhaps malignant in intention, but certainly more mischievous than other performances of his in a line in which he excelled. For definite results on this subject we must wait till Lockhart's life is written, and we will hazard no too severe judgment before that event. In the meantime people may take our word for it that the widely-spread statement that the *Representative* failed under the conduct of Mr. Disraeli is purely and entirely popular delusion.

DEATH OF THE EARL OF GIFFORD.—The Earl of Gifford died on Monday morning at Dufferin Lodge, Highgate, after a protracted illness. The deceased was the eldest son of the Marquis of Tweeddale, and was born in 1822, at Yester House, Haddingtonshire. He was educated at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where he graduated M.A. in 1845. By the death of the deceased a vacancy has occurred in the representation of the borough of Totnes, the constituency of which Lord Gifford had represented in Parliament on Liberal principles since 1857, when he was first returned. Lord Gifford was private secretary to Lord Panmure for a short time in 1854, when Lord Panmure held office as Secretary of State for War.

THE CONFEDERATES.—Lieutenant Maury, who is now in London, having quite run the blockade of Charleston, says that the Secessionists of the South were never more decided or in better heart. "There is no lack of food among us. As for arms, we have taken enough from the enemy to equip all the forces that we require; and then as to clothing, it is enough for me to say that the Custom-house receipts at Charleston for the month of July, 1862, were greater than they have been for the corresponding month of any year of the last ten; and this revenue was derived chiefly from duties on clothing and munitions of war, notwithstanding the famous blockade. What the receipts have been for the months of August, September, October, and November I cannot say, for I have not seen the returns. A considerable amount of importations has also entered Wilmington, Mobile, and the port of Texas. Besides this, large quantities of clothing have been brought across the Potomac and the Chesapeake into the numerous rivers and creeks of Virginia, also from Ohio and other producing States of the West."

THE MCNEIL MASSACRE.—The St. Louis correspondent of a New York journal, writing under date of Dec. 2, states: "A report is in circulation, and has found its way into the city papers, that a messenger is in town under a flag of truce from General Holmes, the rebel commander at Little Rock, with a demand on General Curtis for the surrender of 'General' McNeil, who some time since shot ten rebels in North Missouri. Were it not for the threat, in case of refusal, to hang ten Union officers, the affair would be supremely ludicrous. McNeil can never be yielded up, no matter what unfortunate consequences may result from the refusal."

THE PENAL SYSTEM.—A commission has been appointed to inquire into the working of the laws relating to penal servitude, especially as connected with their efficiency or otherwise as a means of preventing outrages on persons and protecting property. The following noblemen and gentlemen constitute the commission:—Earl Grey, Lord Nassau, Lord Cranworth, Lord Chelmsford, Sir John Pakington, Mr. Walpole, Mr. Henley, Mr. Bouverie, Sir A. Cockburn, Mr. Waddington, Mr. Russell Gurney (the Recorder for London), the O'Conor Don, and Mr. Childers.

VIOLENT GALE.—On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday a severe gale from the north-west swept over the greater part of England, causing very serious damage to shipping both on the eastern and western coasts. In London the storm was severely felt. On Sunday a great portion of the wires connected with the London District Telegraph Company were blown down and destroyed from the western end of Whitechapel road to Mile-end gate. Some hundreds of yards of wire were carried into the main thoroughfare, when Mr. G. Mackay, the telegraph stationmaster at Mile-end, accompanied by a number of police of the H and K divisions, proceeded to the spot and collected and conveyed it to the Leeman-street Police-station and the office of Mr. Mackay. The telegraphic communication in this district is at present interrupted, but no doubt in a few days the wires will be repaired by the company. On Sunday morning the body of a seaman was picked up near the Thames Tunnel Steam-boat Pier, Wapping. The deceased, it appears, was in a boat at an early hour crossing from Rotherhithe to a vessel lying in the middle tier of the river, when the wind blew the frail craft against a barge, and it was capsized. Three men were rescued, but the deceased was drowned. The rigging and gear of several large vessels moored in the East and West India Docks were destroyed by the gale, and similar damage was done to the craft lying in the London and St. Katharine's Docks. From various points of the coast accounts of disasters at sea and damage on land have been received. A very large amount of property has been destroyed and numerous lives have been sacrificed.

GENERAL BURNSIDE.

THE recent appointment of General Burnside to the most important command in the Federal military service—that of the Army of the Potomac—has once again brought before the world in a prominent manner the name of an officer who has perhaps been more truly successful—at all events, has as yet had less fault found with him—than any other leader who has occupied a front position since the commencement of the Civil War in America. We do not know that General Burnside is more than one of those respectable mediocrities who generally hold prominent positions of some sort in all great crises, or that he is likely to rise above the dull level of commonplace routine generalship, which appears to characterize the leaders of the Federal army. These are points which time and opportunity will test; but, at all events, Burnside, in the part he has hitherto played, has done the work assigned to him in a satisfactory manner. His expedition to Roanoke Island, the capture of Newbern, North Carolina, the march to the relief of M'Clellan at Harrison's Landing, the prompt advance to the support of Pope during his disastrous retreat to the lines before Washington, and, finally, the gallant and determined manner in which he maintained his position at the bridge on the field of Antietam, have all conduced to place General Burnside in the category of respectable and tolerably successful, if not great, commanders; and it is not impossible that, in the wide field which is now opened to him as the Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Army of the Potomac, to which he succeeded a few weeks since on the dismissal of General M'Clellan, may afford General Burnside scope wherein to display superior military genius, if he really possess it. One thing, at least, is certain—that in Generals Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson he has "foemen worthy of his steel;" and if he should succeed in beating them, he may well claim a leading position among the Generals which America has produced; but should he fail—why, he will be no worse than others who made a greater flourish, or about whom a greater flourish was made—M'Clellan and Pope, to wit—and will, doubtless, be relegated to that disgrace and obscurity which appear to be the inevitable fate of military leaders in the New World whose operations fail to satisfy the demands of the popular will, or to "suit the book" of the politicians who have the supreme direction of affairs. As our readers are aware, the army of General Burnside has for some time occupied the north bank of the Rappahannock, opposite Fredericksburg, and directly in front of the Confederate army under the command of General Lee. Late accounts state that the Federal army had crossed the Rappahannock at two points, one division under the immediate command of General Burnside having forced a passage at Fredericksburg, while another, under General Franklin, had crossed some distance down the stream, and that an immediate collision between the opposing forces was inevitable. While, however, we wait for further intelligence of their movements—it may be for the accounts of a great battle—we may again revert

to the earlier career of the officer who is likely soon to win either fame or disgrace or the soil of Virginia. General Ambrose Everett Burnside was born at Liberty, in Union County, Indiana, on the 23rd of May, 1824, and is consequently now in his thirty-eighth year. In

1842 he entered the West Point Military Academy, and graduated in 1847, with the rank of Second-Lieutenant in the 2nd United States' Artillery. In September of the same year he was transferred to the 3rd Artillery, and was attached to the rebel General then Captain

Bragg's company, with which he marched in the division of General Patterson to the city of Mexico, and there remained until the close of hostilities. With this company he also was engaged for three or four years in the Indian border wars of New Mexico, distinguishing himself in an encounter with the Apache tribe in August, 1849, near Los Vegas, where he completely routed them, killing eighteen and taking nine prisoners, besides capturing a number of horses. For his gallantry on this occasion he was brought to the notice of the President and Congress, and in December, 1851, was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant. In the commission appointed to settle the boundary lines between the United States and Mexico after the war between the two countries, General Burnside served as Quartermaster; and in 1851, in the capacity of bearer of despatches from Colonel Graham to President Fillmore, he traversed a distance of twelve hundred miles across the plains, from the Gila River through the Indian country, attended by an escort of but three men, in seventeen days. Subsequent to this he was stationed at Fort Adams, in Newport Harbour, and retired from service in October, 1853. In the interval to the outbreak of the present troubles he occupied himself in the civil walks of life. Shortly after his retirement from the army he turned his attention to the manufacture of a breech-loading rifle—known as the "Burnside rifle"—invented by himself. During the administration of Buchanan it was submitted to Secretary of War Floyd, who gave assurances that it would be adopted. It transpired subsequently, however, that Floyd had made a bargain with another inventor, with whom he was to share the profits, and General Burnside, who had incurred considerable expense in bringing his weapon to perfection on the strength of Floyd's promises, was consequently involved in some peculiar difficulties, from which an upright and honourable character and persevering industry have since entirely relieved him. He was, subsequent to this transaction, connected with the Illinois Central Railroad along with General M'Clellan. While in Rhode Island he became acquainted with and married a lady of Providence, named Bi-hop, with whom he removed to Chicago when appointed to the position in the railroad company. Having been elected treasurer of the company, he removed to New York, where he had been but a short time when summoned by Governor Sprague to take command of the 1st Regiment of Rhode Island Volunteers, with which he took part at the battle of Bull Run, acting during the engagement as Brigadier-General of the second brigade of the second division. Colonel Burnside's skilful generalship on this occasion brought him to the immediate notice of the authorities at Washington, and on the 6th of August, 1861, he was promoted to a full brigadier-generalship. Personally, General Burnside is a man of fine appearance, with a lofty forehead, expressive of deep penetration. His manners are very winning and pleasing, while at the same time his features denote firmness and decisiveness of character. He is, without, represented as a strict disciplinarian, a most im-

placable enemy to military irregularity, and yet a most popular man with every one. These last-mentioned qualities are specially needed in the position which General Burnside now occupies, if the accounts published of the irregularities, unmilitary practices, and desertions said



GENERAL BURNSIDE, THE NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.



GENERAL BURNSIDE ISSUING ORDERS TO THE MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF.



AN ELECTORAL MEETING AT ATHENS.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. ANDRANOS.)

to prevail in the army may be credited. Burnside is said to be no politician, to have no party connections; and this is alleged to have been one reason for his appointment to his present command,

and to be at the same time an advantage to him in conducting the operations of the army, as he is not likely to be hampered in his movements from the political jealousies of the "wirepullers" at

Washington. These gentry, it is alleged, all look forward to one day themselves filling the presidential chair, and, consequently, any man who makes himself eminent incurs their enmity as a rival, and



VISIT OF THE QUEEN OF SPAIN TO THE HOSPITAL OF SEVILLE.

either must be removed or thwarted. Now, as it is believed that Burnside cares nothing for politics, is entirely devoted to his profession, and has no idea of becoming a candidate for the presidency, why, he is a safe man, and will perhaps be left to work out his plans without let or hindrance from the political busybodies who swarm about the White House at Washington.

ELECTIONEERING IN GREECE.

The elections in Greece are now over, and the duty of collating the votes and announcing the result has devolved upon the Provisional Government. The elections in the Assembly have caused but little excitement, the whole attention of the people having been concentrated on the question of choosing Prince Alfred as King. Up to the time when the decision was come to collect the wishes of the people as to the future King by universal suffrage much excitement prevailed, and not a few scenes such as that portrayed in our Engraving might have been witnessed all over Athens almost every day. A knot of persons would collect in some public place; a discussion on passing events would ensue; by-and-by some one would take possession of a stair, a balcony, or other "coign of vantage," and from thence proceed to harangue the rapidly-increasing crowd. More and more people would collect, the small knot became a crowd, then other orators would start up, till, perhaps, three or four would-be Demosthenes might be seen addressing, with much volubility and energetic gesticulation, separate divisions of the assembled *demos*. But is not all this very much like free electioneering everywhere? Certainly: but the peculiarity distinguishing electioneering in Athens is, that after the actual voting began, and the determination to elect Prince Alfred became universal, all this changed; and if any one fond of the excitement of electioneering, and having heard that some time or other in the beginning of December there was a chance of some such fun in Greece, had landed on the 5th inst. at the Piraeus and come up to Athens, he might have wearied himself with walking about during the whole of the following week, and, unless told beforehand, he would never have found out for himself that the Athenians were busy electing, not only their representatives for the National Assembly, but likewise their future Sovereign. There was not a trace of any of those outward signs with which we associate elections; no appearance in public of the candidates, no mustering of forces, no rival committees sitting at the rival public-houses, no huge placards covering the walls or carried about in the streets, no flags, no colours, no party signs, no noisy elated crowds, no carriages busy in taking electors to the poll, no excitement or shouting, no rows, no quarrelling, no practical jokes—nothing, in one word, which could indicate, even from afar, that something uncommon was passing in the town, except, perhaps, from time to time a small patrol of Municipal Guards with their muskets in every imaginable position, "flanking" about, looking at the shops, and conversing languidly with each other or the passers-by. The actual process of voting is thus described by a correspondent writing from Athens on the 13th inst. —

"Long before ten a.m., the time appointed for the opening of the registers, a large crowd had collected. It was known that the Holy Synod had expressed a wish to sign their names first on the registers, and that the commission in charge of the registers had anticipated this wish by five members of the Synod, with all their suite of clerks, taking the register to the President of the Synod. The register was brought back, and the head of the Hellenic Church had written down the name of Prince Alfred. Soon after the five members of the Synod, with all their suite of clerks and secretaries, came in a body to the Dimarchy, and, one by one, they all gave their vote to Prince Alfred. Then followed the crowd which had waited, and before another hour passed several hundred had signed, and all, without one single exception, for Prince Alfred. The process was expeditious enough. Ascending two flights of steps, you arrived at the entrance of the Council-room, guarded by a National Guard sentry, to keep order. In the room were two tables. On that at the farther end lay the great book, *the book*—about the size of a large ledger, in which, before the day was over, all those who are most prominent in Greece had signed their names, the Synod, the Ministers, political, scientific, and military notabilities, besides a host of other people. At the other table the priest forming one of the commission was writing the names and votes of those who could not do so for themselves; and a hard task he had from morning till four in the afternoon. The first idea was to have registers only at the Dimarchy; but this was changed, and others were opened in the large new parish church, and in all the other churches which had been assigned as polling-places for the election of the representatives for the Assembly. Before the first evening had closed it was known that above 2000 names had been inscribed; among them one for a Republic, two for Prince Alfred or a Republic, and all the rest pure and simple for Prince Alfred. Nine days more remained for voting.

"After the first rush was over all went off so quietly as to show that it was a calm determination, and not an impulse of the moment, which carried the people there. It was the most curious instance of the power of a popular sentiment to see those numbers of illiterate peasants, labouring men, and soldiers, whom you would never have supposed capable of a political idea of any kind, go there to take part. No one had tutored them, no one had urged them on; it was the *vox populi*, if ever there was an instance of it."

The elections at the other registries were meanwhile going on in much the same way, and with much the same results.

The writer quoted above concludes his letter as follows:—

"Bad was the news which the steamer brought this week from Europe, and every one is downcast. Already, from the beginning of the week, sinister rumours were flying about. The French and Russian Legations had received telegrams in cipher, and, of course, it was known instantly, as it always is, together with the contents, which were that the three Powers had made a new protocol, on the basis of that of 1832, excluding the scions of their reigning families. It was too bad news to be believed, even when, after the arrival of the French mail the French men-of-war in the Piraeus got up steam to go all along the coast of Greece to publish the news, and thus prevent the voting for Prince Alfred. The last news received by the Government itself does not indeed mention the new protocol, but does not sound any the more hopeful for that. The declarations of both Lord Palmerston and Earl Russell amount to a refusal, confirming thus the unfavourable telegram which a fortnight ago led to the universal suffrage.

"Only those who have witnessed the wonderful rapidity with which the idea of Prince Alfred was taken up by the whole country can really judge of the effect of this news. The Greeks had, as it were, staked their future fate on this single chance, and this has become a poor one now. It may have been folly, ignorance, anything you like; but it was as genuine and as involuntary as ever a popular idea was. Once started, it was impossible to stop it. Everything else sank into the background; no one listened to anything else. Downcast the Greeks are, but don't imagine they have given in. They are more decided than ever, as you may see from what follows. The first effect of the news was, not to stop the signatures for Prince Alfred, but to increase the number of votes for Prince Alfred or a Republic, and you may depend upon it those votes re-echo the general feeling. With those who think as well as feel, it has taken another more practical shape. The votes are given, and about 120,000 signatures will be brought before the Assembly, which, elected under the colour and name of Alfred, will confirm and proclaim King Alfred I. of Greece; it will appoint a Lieutenant to carry on the business until the existing obstacles to his acceptance can be removed, while a deputation will go to Europe to plead for the removal of these obstacles."

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN AT SEVILLE.

In the recent journey of the Queen of Spain through her Andalusian dominions she was to be won by the enthusiasm of the people, to secure the confidence of whom seems to have been her principal intention.

The Royal progress, indeed, may be said to have established a complete understanding between the nation and the Sovereign, since

her Majesty has neglected nothing which could attract the affection of the poorer classes. Our Engraving represents the visit of the Royal party to the hospital at Seville, in which ancient city the popular feeling was manifested with all the ardour of the Spanish character.

After having visited the *Fundación* at Cordova where she became sponsor for a newly-born infant which had been received only a few hours before, and was honoured by being deposited in the arms of Royalty, her Majesty proceeded to the old bixagonal city, inclosed by the wall and towers originally built by Julius Caesar, and contrasting strangely with the gloomy Moorish houses, their galleries and open courts, their flowers and fountains; with the magnificent Gothic cathedral; with the *Giralda*, the *Alcazar*, and the Doric gate of the *Triana*.

It was to neither of these, however, that the Royal party repaired for their most interesting visit, since, in accordance with her original plan, the Queen had determined to leave some evidence of her interest in the various benevolent institutions of the kingdom.

At Seville she presented herself at the hospital, where she fully complied with the rule of the establishment, which says,—"After having blessed the Holy name of God in an audible voice, those chosen for this holy work (that of serving the poor) shall visit the infirmary, and shall kiss the hand of the oldest pauper in the name of the rest." In conformity with this direction the Queen was conducted to the couch of an old man, who lay sick, and, in addition to this, had one hand on which to receive the Royal salute. This salute was given, however, in an attitude of profound humility, and amidst the prayers and emotions of the Brothers and Sisters of Charity, and the other inmates of the institution.

It is said that the Royal bounty distributed during the auspicious journey amounted to about £90,000.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

MR. BALFE'S new opera is to be produced immediately after Christmas. It is said, too, that the English Opera Association has really succeeded in organising itself, and that it will commence proceedings early in the spring.

On Saturday (Dec. 13) an interesting and very successful concert was given at the Whittington Club by the Society for the Relief of Political Exiles from Prussia, Austria, and other Constitutional and liberty-loving German States. A numerous and efficient chorus, comprising some of the "Gesangvereins," did good service, and were warmly applauded in various *lieder*; their attention to light and shade being as conspicuous as their fine-toned voices. A piano-forte solo by Herr Golmick, and a duet, in which that gentleman was joined by Herr Daubert (violincello), were redoubtable, while almost every piece was received with more or less enthusiasm. Invitations had been addressed to Messrs. Hallé and Benedict, who, however, did not attend—not, it may be presumed, from any political tirade or pedantry, for both of them sent subscriptions to the association. A letter was also received from M. Joachim, expressing regret at his inability to take part in the concert, and explaining that he should be at Hanover on the 13th, and, therefore, not anywhere near the Whittington Club. We do not know what the political opinions of the exiles are whom this society make it their business to relieve; nor do we care, nor do we suppose that the society cares. We have been accustomed, in England, during the last three quarters of a century, to meet with exiles who are suffering for monarchic, aristocratic, and democratic ideas; and the universal feeling in this country is that no one should be persecuted for the expression of an honest opinion, whatever set of political notions he may have inherited, adopted, or formed for himself. It is gratifying, too, to hear that the concert at the Whittington Club produced considerable sum of money, and we have no doubt that many more entertainments might be given, with success, for the same object.

Mr. Kennedy's interesting Scotch entertainment is now about to be given at the Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, Mr. Kennedy is assisted on the pianoforte by Mr. Lind, who was the coadjutor of the late Mr. Wilson in his popular entertainment on the same subject.

The largest sum of money yet collected by means of any one musical entertainment for the benefit of the Lancashire poor is said to have been taken at St. James's Hall last week, on the night of the Welsh concert. After this, the Welsh might as well give a concert for the benefit of their own poor—we mean the poor Welshmen who, finding Wales not sufficiently Welsh, are about to found a thoroughly Welsh colony in Patagonia. We have not heard, by-the-way, what the Government of the new State is to be; but if it is to be modelled after that of the ancient Britons, and if the Druidical religion is to be revived, it would be a good idea to engage Mdlle. Titien, the great "Norma" of the day, as priestess and Queen. Singers of the greatest eminence, if tempted with suitable sums of money, will accept engagements almost anywhere; and for a certain high consideration we have no doubt Mdlle. Titien would consent to take up her residence in Patagonia and teach the Druidical religion practically. It would, perhaps, be necessary for her to be accompanied by her "Orovoso," if only for the sake of keeping off the "Pollos," native and imported.

The great interest taken by the public in the recently-published "letters" by Mendelssohn has induced the composer's family to supply materials for another volume, which will consist chiefly of letters from England. Here is one which will doubtless find a place in the forthcoming book, and which, if not written from England, at least concerns Englishmen and English music, and the most distinguished of our English composers. It is dated Berlin, December, 1813, and is addressed to Sterndale Bennett:—

My dear Friend,—I hear that you have proclaimed yourself a candidate for the musical professorship at Edinburgh, and that testimonial which I might send you could possibly be of use to you with the authorities at the University. Now, while I think of writing such a testimonial for you, I feel proud and ashamed at the same time—proud, because I think of all the honour you have done to your art, your country, and yourself, and because it is on such a brother artist that I am to give an opinion; and ashamed because I have always followed your career, your compositions, your successes, with as true an interest, that I feel as if it was my own cause, and as if I was myself the candidate for such a place. But there is one point of view from which I might be excused to give still an opinion. While all good and true musicians are unanimous about the subject, perhaps the council of the University might like to know what we German people think of you when we consider you; and then I may tell them that if the prejudice which formerly prevailed in this country against the musical talent of your country has now subsided, it is chiefly owing to you, to your compositions, to your personal residence in Germany. Your overtures, your concertos, your vocal and instrumental compositions, are reckoned by our best and severest authorities among the first standard works of the present musical period. The public never feel tired of listening to, while the musicians never feel tired in performing, your compositions; and, since they took root in the minds of the true amateurs, my countrymen became aware that music is the same in England as in Germany, as everywhere; and so, by your success here, you destroyed that prejudice which nobly could ever have destroyed but a true genius. This is a service you have done to English as well as German musicians, and I am sure that your countrymen will not acknowledge it less readily than mine have done. Shall I still add that the science in your works is as great as their thoughts are elegant and fanciful—that we consider your performance on the pianoforte as masterly as your conducting of an orchestra, and that all this is the general judgment of the best musicians here, as well as my own personal sincere opinion? Let me only add that I wish you success from my whole heart, and that I shall be truly happy to hear that you have not missed it.

FELIX MENDELSSOHN BARTHOLDY.

Cynics and sincere haters of the principle of election in all cases where men of superior and special abilities have to be chosen, will not forget that a Mr. Hugh Pearson was declared by a majority of votes to be more worthy of the vacant post than the composer whose works had inspired Mendelssohn with so much admiration. After that Mendelssohn ought to have sent some sort of testimonial to the Professors of the Edinburgh University.

At the Monday Popular Concert of Jan. 12, when a new series will commence, Hummel's grand military sextet for pianoforte, violin, flute, clarinet, trumpet, contrabass, and violincello, is to be one of the principal pieces. Mendelssohn's sonata in B flat, for violincello and pianoforte, is also to be performed by Signor Piatti and Mr. Charles Hallé.

Of Schumann, for the present, we hear no more, though doubtless

Herr Pauer will bring him up again as soon as there are any indications that the public are ready for him. "The English," Herr Pauer informs us in a note inserted in the two last programmes of the Monday Popular Concerts, "have adopted Mendelssohn, but in Germany an equal rank is accorded to Schumann. It may arise from affection for Mendelssohn that the English deny Schumann's claims, fearing that the recognition of them may interfere with the justly-deserved reputation of their favourite; but, by this as it may, a comparison should not be instituted between them." After which (as an able contemporary has remarked) Herr Pauer immediately proceeds to institute a comparison, and, in that comparison, satisfactorily shows why Schumann does not and cannot attain the same popularity as Mendelssohn. Among other things, he tells us that "Schumann, apart from his not having the same natural gifts as Mendelssohn, was unable by the use of his talents or his manners to make himself popular;" that "if he did not treat public opinion with contempt he would not consult it;" that "he never had the means of forming for himself a clear idea of what was due to the public," &c., winding up with an aphorism which will hardly cause the mouths of amateurs not hitherto deeply versed in Schumann's music to water, and which is to the effect that "what sounds right and interesting in a small study, with a friend to turn over the leaves, may sound dreary, uninteresting, and even tiresome to an indifferent audience"—as if all audiences were not, until they are made acquainted with the merits of a work; and as if what "may sound dreary, uninteresting, and tiresome" could be tempting under any circumstances.

A letter addressed to the *Musical World* gives interesting particulars of the great success obtained by Mdlle. Patti in Paris. The week before last "Il Matrimonio Segreto" had been announced at the Théâtre des Italiens, but a message came from the Emperor saying that he desired to hear Adelina in the "Sonnambula." The opera was accordingly changed, and the Emperor, Empress, and the whole Court attended the performance. Patti was in excellent voice, and her success was extraordinary. After each act the Empress sent round for Calzado, the manager, to convey the most flattering compliments from herself to Adelina. At the end of almost every phrase both the Emperor and Empress applauded, and on one occasion the Empress cried so loudly and so frequently "Brava, bravissima!" that the whole audience took it up and burst into such a shout of applause as had rarely, if ever, been heard before at the Théâtre des Italiens. When the opera was over the Empress sent her compliments again, together with a magnificent bouquet that she had worn all the evening; stating, moreover, that she must absolutely make Patti's acquaintance, and intended very shortly to get up a private concert at the Court for her to be presented. The Empress has, moreover, ordered a life-size portrait of Mdlle. Patti, as Amina, from Winterhalter. Meyerbeer, too, is writing a scene expressly for her, which will be produced on the occasion of her benefit.

THE GREAT EASTERN.—The agents of the Great Eastern Steamship Company in Liverpool have received a letter from Captain Paton, the commander of the ship, dated New York, Dec. 5, to the effect that all the necessary repairs would be completed by the 10th inst., and that, should a suitable freight offer, the Great Eastern would once more start on her return voyage to England. Should the expectations of Captain Paton be realised the arrival of the big ship in the Mersey may be expected daily.

THE DUTCH ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.—The Surinam papers state that, a few weeks ago, some of the slaves waited upon his Excellency the Governor, and in their own name, as well as on behalf of their fellow-slaves, returned thanks for the great boon bestowed upon them by his Majesty by the abolition of slavery on the 1st of July, 1853, as had been announced, and also for the kind language addressed to them by his Excellency in his proclamation. They were kindly received by the Governor, who impressed upon them the necessity of being calm and contented, of awaiting the period of their liberation, and of proving to their industry, obedience, and faithful discharge of their duty, that they were worthy of the boon assured to them.

THE SULTAN'S DENTIST.—The sudden accession of wealth and honours which we lately reported to have beset Mr. Z., the tooth-drawer who recently operated on the Sultan's molar when Mr. Roux was absent in pursuit of woodpeckers and partridges, appears to have affected the poor operator's brain. He has, we are informed, lost his wits, and been placed in confinement in consequence. The monomania with which he was surrounded by enemies seized him, and, full of this delusion, he forced himself, a few days ago, into the presence of the Captain Pacha, armed with a revolver. His Highness was not disposed to "chop logic" with a disputant thus conditioned, and hence poor Mr. Z.'s relegation to safe keeping.

DEATH OF THE ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET.—On Saturday morning the Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Graham Eden Hamond, G.C.B., departed this life, full of years and honours, at Norton Lodge, Freshwater, Isle of Wight. Deceased was born in 1779, and was entered on the books of the Navy in 1795. He obtained post rank in 1798, and was made Rear-Admiral in 1825, Vice-Admiral in 1837, and Admiral in 1847. He retained the rank of Admiral of the Fleet during the present year, vice Sir John West. He was a midshipman of the Queen Charlotte in Lord Howe's action; was at the blockade of Malta and the siege of Valetta; served at Copenhagen in 1801, and at Flushing in 1809. It was a Deputy Lieutenant of Norfolk and of the Isle of Wight, where he died, in his eighty-fourth year, retaining his faculties to the last, although suffering from illness during the past few weeks. The gallant Admiral succeeded his father, the late Sir Andrew Snape Hamond, in 1826, and was married in December, 1808, to Elizabeth, daughter of John Kinburn, Esq., of Fowey Lodge, Cornwall. He left a son and heir and three daughters: Captain A. Snape Hamond, Mr. G. Hamond, and Miss Hamond.

HOW HISTORY IS WRITTEN IN CHINA.—Mr. Fonblanche, in his "Napoleons and Pechell," translates the examination-paper of a Chinese candidate in a competitive examination, who had been set to write a history of the recent war. It begins as follows:—"In the fifth moon of the tenth year of the reign of Hien Fung, the wisest and greatest Emperor that the world has yet known, if we except the Lord who now reigns, and who is to all his predecessors as the sun is to a paper lantern, it was determined by the Emperor, whose heart was big, and who loved his people, to drive out of his dominions, which means from off the face of the world, all foreign devils and barbarians who, by cunning devices and falsehood, had gained admission into the land. Now, these foreign devils and barbarians became afraid, and they prepared a humble petition, praying to be allowed to send deputies to offer tribute and submission to the Ruler of the Universe. When the Lord of Ten Thousand Years heard of this audacious request his anger was roused, and he ordered that when these foreigners came they should be slain. It is true, and all men shall know, that far away across a sea which the stupid barbarians call the Red, because its waters are blue, there are some islands inhabited by savages, who are called English, French, American, and other vile names. These lands are remote, and very poor, so much so that, although under the Imperial sceptre, the Ruler of the World had taken pity on them, and allowed their people to dwell in peace and happiness. Great was the goodness and the wisdom of the Emperor Hien Fung! But these foreign devils have wicked hearts, and they came in many ships and with many soldiers, and tried to create fear among the people; and three of their great men—the greatest no greater than a second-class white-button mandarin, presumed to approach the shores of the Empire, even unto the mouth of the Peiho, and demanded permission to throw themselves at the foot of the Celestial Throne. The names of these men were Lau-Ghin, an Englishman; Bar-Ho, a Frenchman; and Yanki-Wad, an American. They took with them Jay-Ho, an English sea-mandarin, with many ships; and they said to him, 'We would go to Pekin; but, see! there are braves on the banks, and they will kill us!' And Jay-Ho said (Ho was a fool), 'Come with me, and fear not, for I will drive them away.' And Gho and Ghin said, 'Be it so;' but Wad was more cunning, and he surrendered himself to our braves, who carried him to Pekin in a wooden cage and there imprisoned him. And Jay-Ho brought 743 ships, each carrying 2317 soldiers and 419 guns, and he attempted to enter the river; whereupon 100 braves were sent to attack him, and they burned all the ships and slew all the barbarians, only nine of whom escaped, and among these were Gho and Ghin."

DREADFUL RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN PORTUGAL.—News from Lisbon brings us an account of a terrible railway accident in Portugal. It took place upon the Eastern Railway. A train with materials, and carrying about 200 workmen, was passing over a bridge when the bridge suddenly gave way and the carriages were plunged into the water. It is believed that at least 100 people must have been killed and a great many others (indeed, nearly all the passengers) were more or less seriously injured.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.—The governors of this institution are now understood to be negotiating with the Fishmongers' Company for the purchase of a plot of ground in the Walworth-road, a little beyond the Elephant and Castle, as a site for the new hospital. A deputation of them, headed by the treasurer, had an interview on the subject a few days ago with the committee of the Court of Fishmongers, of which Mr. Cubitt, the late Lord Mayor, was chairman for the occasion, at their hall, near London-bridge. The piece of ground is between seven and eight acres in extent, and is nearer the more populous portions of Southwark than the Surrey Gardens, and on a better level. The building in all its parts, it is said, could be erected simultaneously; whereas in such a locality as the Surrey Gardens it would have to be put up in sections. The Fishmongers' Company are understood to have offered the site to the hospital authorities for £40,000, plus certain expenses, which are not to exceed £5000. The negotiation, of course, cannot be concluded without the approval of the governors of the hospital.

LAW AND CRIME.

A FEMALE pauper of St. Martin's Workhouse was charged with creating a disturbance while drunk, and abusing the surgeon. The prisoner said that she had gone into the workhouse with three healthy children, who had before long been infected with some disorder, and had since been placed in the "fool ward," in the same bed with other children who were badly diseased. Mr. Tyrwhitt said he was no doctor, but could not see how the woman's children could be cured under such circumstances. "It was not to be wondered at that persons in workhouses should complain, and it answered the question why prisons were preferred to workhouses when gaols were so clean and comfortable." He committed the woman to prison for seven days. If the prison be so preferable as the magistrate admits, this seems to be a curious way of admonishing the prisoner not to offend again in like manner.

The long-contested Yelverton marriage case has once more received a decision. The Court of Session at Edinburgh has decided in favour of the marriage of Miss Longworth. The majority was that of two Puisne Judges in opposition to the President. Consequently the matter practically stands almost as before, as there are the judgments of the President and of Lord Ardmillan (against whose decision the appeal was made) on the one hand, and the two Judges already mentioned on the other. It will probably be referred finally to the House of Lords.

Mr. James Lumley, late of Her Majesty's Theatre, appeared before the Bankruptcy Court on Friday week for examination and discharge. The debts of the bankrupt amount to upwards of £20,000, all unsecured, and the available assets to only £200. An adjournment was ordered.

Two men and a woman were tried at the Middlesex Sessions for stealing a bundle of umbrellas from a shop. A bystander, who saw the theft committed, informed a policeman, who took the men into custody. The woman then attacked the witness, who, as well as the constable, was severely beaten by all three. The men were sentenced each to twelve months' hard labour, and the woman, against whom a previous conviction was proved, to three years' penal servitude. On receiving sentence the woman began dancing about the dock, and exclaimed, "Thank you, my Lord; that is just what I wanted." A fellow named Johnson, convicted, with another, of a desperate garotte robbery, and with him condemned to fifteen years' penal servitude, exclaimed, upon being sentenced, "Is that all? Thank you." These cases afford a pleasing illustration of the terrors of penal servitude, as at present carried out, for the purpose of the repression of crime.

A soldier who robbed a woman of a locket in the street was sentenced to hard labour for twelve months. He called out, impudently, to the Judge, "I hope you may sit here till I come back." Said the Judge, "If you commit any fresh offence, I hope I may."

Edward Wood, the dust contractor of the parish of St. Mary, Bermondsey, was tried for feloniously receiving £80 in gold, which had been found by his men in a dustheap. The prisoner had received £15 as his share, upon the men's representation that the sum found was £15. He was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

The porter of Danes' Inn, Strand, was indicted for manslaughter, in having caused the death of a law student, by stabbing him with a cheese knife, at an hotel, while giving him a lesson in fencing, after dinner, and when both parties were none the better for liquor. The lamentable transaction was clearly one of misadventure, and the jury acquitted the prisoner.

Fifteen men and women were found guilty at Chester of having assaulted the police during the Birkenhead riots. Mr. Pope Hennessy attempted to argue that the meeting of the Birkenhead Debating Society, which had led to the disturbances, was an unlawful assemblage, as "calculated to endanger the public tranquillity." Mr. Baron Bramwell declined to allow a question to be put leading to the expression of a witness's ideas on this point, and expressed his hope "that it would never be the law of this land that people could not express their opinions on all subjects, and especially in a private room, without being prevented by a number of ignorant savages armed with missiles." The principal offender was sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude, and the others to imprisonment for terms varying from six months to two years each.

The so-called "Captain Conroy," whose real name is James Summers, was tried for having married successively two young ladies, he having already a wife living; and also for passing a forged cheque for £100. He was sentenced to penal servitude for fifteen years.

POLICE.

AN OBSTINATE JUROR.—A strange occurrence took place in connection with the case of "Thewlis v. Mumford" at Guildhall. The jury retired, and were locked up from one o'clock till ten at night through the obstinacy of one juror, who would not yield his opinion to the other eleven. During their deliberation several angry altercations took place, in the course of which the obstinate man struck a brother juror and afterwards hurled a chair at him. At last the others, feeling annoyed and disgusted at his conduct, set on him, and in the course of the scrimmage got him against the door. The usher, thinking they were knocking for him, opened the door, and the juror fell on his back with his head out on the passage. At ten o'clock they were called into court, and, it being found that they were not likely to agree, they were discharged.

REFORMATION.—George White, a young but desperate thief, well known to the police, was charged with stealing a pair of boots, the property of a tradesman at Islington.

The complainant has during the past four or five weeks lost several pairs of boots, and on more than one occasion has seen the prisoner running away from his shop. Early in the week he saw prisoner steal a pair of boots. He gave chase, but was unable to overtake him; but, from the description given to the police, he was apprehended, and when told the charge he said he could prove an alibi, as he was only running past the complainant's shop to get out of the wet.

The police said the prisoner had been several times in custody, and had been convicted from the Sessions for felony. He had only been out of prison six or seven weeks, and the day after he came out he was again taken into custody, but discharged.

The prisoner—Yes, that was a pretty charge, to lock up a young chap on suspicion. It's very hard that a young chap can't walk the streets without being pounced on by a lot of policemen.

Mr. D'Yncourt said it was a case he should send for trial.

The prisoner.—Settle it here, and I will plead guilty. I am very sorry, but since I have been out of prison I have been trying to reform and to lead a virtuous life.

Mr. D'Yncourt said that he considered it a strange way to reform, and fully committed the prisoner for trial.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

Gold having commenced to flow back to the Bank of England, and the demand for silver for export to the East having fallen, the last steamer having taken out only £25,517, Home-borne imports have shown a increased firmness this week. The amount of business done in these, however, has continued moderate. Consols for Money, have realised 92½%; Ditto, for the 5th of January, 92½%; New Three per Cent., 92½%; Exchequer Bills, 1½, to 1½, premium; Red Sea Annuities, ½. Bank Stock has sold at 23½ to 24.

Indian Stocks, &c., have changed hands slowly, at about previous rates. Indias Five per Cent. have marked 107½ to 108½; Ditto, Domestic, 106½; Ditto, 2½ to 2½ per cent. The Five per Cent. Bupes have been 105½; and the Five-and-a-Half per Cent to 112½.

The imports of gold from New York still continue on a large scale—£300,000 having arrived, and heavy imports expected for some time hence. The latest advices state that the exchange on London was 116½, and the premium on gold 33½ per cent.

The Money Market is largely supplied with capital, and the demand for accommodation is by no means active. In Lombard-street, the best short commercial bills are at 2½ to 2½ per cent. The supply of paper is only moderate.

Treasury Bonds are steady, at about previous quotations. Turkish Consolids, in the early part of the week, touched 41½, but are now 40½ per cent. In other securities no material change has taken place.

Portuguese Scrip has marked 4 to 4½ per cent.; Russo-Asian, 4 to 4½; Turkish, 2 to 2½; French Four-and-a-Half per Cent. have been 105½; Ditto, for the 5th of January, 92½; Ditto, Small, 101; Egyptian, 9½; Greek, 10; Spanish, Three per Cent., 3½; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cent. (Uruguay), 9½; Portuguese, Three per Cent., 4½; Russian, 1862, 9½; Spanish, Five per Cent. 8½ ex div.; Spanish Three per Cent., 5½; Ditto Deferred, 6½; Bupes, 2½; Ditto, Certificates, 5½; Turkish Old Six per Cent., 8½; Ditto, 1858, 70½; Ditto, New, 12½; Dutch Four per Cent., 10½; and Italian Five per Cent., 7½.

There has been a slightly improved demand for Joint-stock Bank Shares, at full quotations:—Agra and United Service, 9½; Bank of Egypt, 2½; Colonial, 9½; City, 9½; English, cotton, and Australian Chartered, 2½; London Chartered of Australia, 2½ ex div.; London and Colonial, 4½; London and County, 3½; London and African, 2½; London and Westminster, 8½; Oriental, 5½; Oriental, 3½; Union of Australia, 5½; Union of England and France, 2½; Union of Ireland, 4½; and Union of London, 3½.

The Colonial Government Securities command very little attention. Canada Six per Cent. have marked 116½; Mauritius, 10½; New Brunswick, 107½; New South Wales Five per Cent., 10½; and Victoria Six per Cent., 10½.

The Miscellaneous Market has ruled steady. Australian Agricultural, 2½; Crystal Palace, 3½; Electric Telegraph, 99 ex new; Oriental Gina, 2½; Provincial and Oriental Steam, 70½; Ditto, New, 12½; Royal Mail Steam, 56½; Trust and Loan Company of Upper Canada, 3½ ex div.

Railway Shares have been in moderate request; nevertheless, prices have been well supported.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The supplies of wheat on offer this week have been trifling. Good and fine samples have sold to a fair extent, at full prices; but inferior qualities have moved off heavily, on former terms. There has been a moderate sale for foreign wheat, at late currencies. Floating cargoes of grain have not had a full inquiry. There has been a slow inquiry for barley, at about stationary prices. In malt, very little has been done, on former terms. Oats have commanded rather more attention, at the late decline in value. Both beans and peas have been offering on easier terms. The flour trade has ruled tolerably firm.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 42s. to 45s.; ditto, white, 46s. to 57s.; grinding barley, 24s. to 29s.; distilling ditto, 29s. to 32s.; malting, new, 32s. to 40s.; rye, 31s. to 37s.; oats, 50s. to 58s.; fed oats, 18s. to 24s.; potato ditto, 24s. to 28s.; tick beans, 30s. to 36s.; grey beans, 20s. to 24s.; white ditto, 30s. to 37s. per quarter. Tares made down, 4s. to 47s.; country marks, 33s. to 42s.; country beans, 38s. to 46s. per bushel.

CATTLE.—Only limited supplies of fat stock have been on offer, and the trade, has ruled steady, on higher terms. Beef, from 3s. 4d. to 5s.; mutton, 3s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; veal, 1s. to 3s.; and pork, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; per lb. to sink the offal.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—Higher prices have been realised for meat, with a firm demand:—Beef, from 2s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 2s. 2d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.; and pork, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d., per lb. by the carcass.

TAE.—The demand for most kinds is very inactive. Compared with last week, however, very little change has taken place in the quoted ones.

SAUER.—Good and fine qualities have realised full prices; but inferior kinds have not had a full inquiry, at barely late rates. Refined goods move off slowly, at 6s. 3d. per cwt. for common brown lumps. The stock is now 64,200 tons, against 73,802 tons at this time last year.

C-FEES.—Colonial qu'ites have changed hands to a fair extent, on former terms; but foreign parcels have ruled heavy. The stock is 8924 tons, against 2693 tons in 1861.

RICE.—The demand is somewhat restricted, at previous rates. Stock is 61,860 tons, against 27,373 ditto last year.

PROVISIONS.—We have very little change to notice in the value of any kind of butter, and the demand continues restricted. Bacon moves off slowly, at 5s. per cwt. for prime Waterford. Hams and lard are firm; but all other provisions are a full inquiry.

TALLOW.—The trade is flat, and prices are rather easier. P.Y.C. on the spot is selling at 45s. to 54s. to 6s. per cwt. The stock is 55,000 cwt., against 43,616 cwt. last year.

OILS.—Linseed oil is fluctuating, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 10d. on the spot. Rape is selling at 40 to 45s. 10d. to 50s.; linseed, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 10d.; and fine palm, 44s. to 44s. French turpentine has sold at 90s. per cwt.

SPRITS.—There is a fair business doing in rum, at full quotations. Proof Leewarda, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.; proof East India, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per gallon. Rum is selling at from 3s. to 16s. Hamptons' spirit, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d.; English ditto, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d.; and English gin, for export, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 3d. per gallon.

HA. AND STRAW.—Meadow hay, 1s. 16s. to 4s. 5s.; clover, 1s. 10s. to 1s. 12s.; and straw, 1s. 12s. to 1s. 16s. per ton.

C. AS.—Best house coal, 18s. to 18s. 6d.; and manufacture's, 1s. 16s. to 1s. 18s. 6d. to 1s. 24s. per ton.

HOPS.—The market is very flat, and prices are with difficulty supported. Mid and East Kent hops, 90s. to 100s.; Weald of Kent, 90s. to 100s.; Sussex, 90s. to 100s.; and foreign, 90s. to 130s. per cwt.

COT.—Since the close of the public sales very little business has been done in a kind of wool, at late rates.

POTATOES.—The supplies are reasonably good, and the demand is inactive, at from 4s. to 10s. per ton.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, DEC. 19.

BANKRUPTS.—G. BATHERWAITE, Welsh, engineer in her Majesty's Dockyards, Greenwich; A. B. BAKER, Essex, butcher; W. B. LUTON, Crosby-hall, chamberlain, under-treasurer and insurance broker; J. F. ANDERS-TRAETEN, Camberwell New-road, merchant; J. MASON, Caxton, Surry, solicitor, victualler; J. DUBATH, Lombard-street, licensed victualler; J. LAW, Upper Cheyne-mews, Bafford-square, car-proprietor; J. LONGLAND, Paddington-street, Islington, confectioner; J. GRIFFITHS, Park-place, Grocer; J. WHITING, H. H. HINDS, Hammersmith, draper; J. E. HINDS, Hammersmith, draper; J. D. SMITH, North Walsham, Norfolk, victualler; F. BLACKBURN, Mirfield, Yorkshire, cloth-mill; T. DICKINS, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, cloth-mill; J. NEWCOMBE, Leicester, grocer; J. MAYNARD, Burwash, Sussex, shopkeeper; W. WOOD, Hellingly, Sussex, huckster; J. T. FUNNEL, Brighton, tobacconist; J. RODGERS, Walsall, Staffordshire, plumber; J. T. LEEDHAM, Sedgley, Staffordshire, tailor; J. ELLISON, Sipton Shield, Northumberland, butcher; W. F. BURDITT, Sandbach, Cheshire, attorney; J. HOWKINS, Rugby, Warwickshire, shopkeeper; G. W. THOMAS, Bristol; R. TIBBINS, Birmingham, late brewer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. RODGER, Overtown, Lanarkshire, joiner; T. ANDERSON, Muirkirk, Fife, farmer; J. M. MINN INGLIS, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, merchant; A. FENTON, Leith, commission merchant; W. FORBES, Gourock, hotel-keeper.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY v. COGNAC BRANDY.—This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the best French Brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome. Sold in bottles, 3s. 6d. each, at the retail houses in London; by the appointed agents in the principal towns in England, or wholesale, at 8s. Great Windmill-street, Haymarket.—Observe the red seal, pink label, and cork branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

MARTELL'S PALE COGNAC, 44s. per dez.; Anderson and Co.'s Unpeated Gina, 30s.; Irish or Scotch Whisky, 26s.; Jamaica Rum, 30s.; Old Port, 20s.; Sherry, 24s. In single bottles at above prices. Samples always on show. T. W. KELLY, 33, Finsbury-place North, Finsbury-square.

CAMPBELL'S FAMED MIXTURE of HIGHLAND and LOWLAND TODDY WHISKIES 1s. 6d. per gallon. Carriage paid to England. F. and D. Campbell, Helensburgh-on-Clyde.

DR. HASSALL, as well as the "LANCET" Newspaper, both report highly of the merits of WATERS' QUININE WINE. Manufactured by Robert Waters, 2, Martin-lane, E. Cannon-street, London, E.C. Sold by Grocers, Italian Ware-housmen, and others, at 3s. a dozen.

Wholesale Agents, E. Lewis and Co., Worcester. International Exhibition, Class 2.

FOR CHRISTMAS PARTIES.—Cordials, Raspberry, Mint, Ginger, and Limes; Shrubs, Spiced Syrup for Wine and Ale; Fettled Milled Stout, in a Pint. ADAM HILL, 258, High Holborn.

COLLARS, Paper and Cloth (Reversible), 6d per dozen or 6s. per gross, post-free. Patents, ARTHUR GRANGIER, 304, High Holborn, London. Agents, WALTERS.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA not being covered with powdered colour presents the China passing off the low-priced brown leaves, leaving a strong, aromatic, lasting strength is always found in the best English tea.

JEFFREYS, 10, New-street, York-road, Lambeth, London. Agents, 50, Cornhill.

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PRIZE MEDAL for ALEXANDRE'S HARMONIUMS. which obtained the following flattering award from the Jury:—“Novelty of construction of harmoniums, cheapness combined with excellence of manufacture, and fine quality of tone.” Agents, CHAPPELL and CO., No. 1, oak case, one stop, five octaves, 10 guineas; 2. In mahogany case, one stop, 12 guineas; 3. In rosewood, three stops, 14 guineas; rosewood, 16 guineas. 4. With five stops, oak, 22 guineas; rosewood, 23 guineas. 5. Eight stops, oak, 35 guineas; rosewood, 36 guineas. 6. Twelve stops, oak or rosewood, 35 guineas. 7. One stop and percussion action, in oak, 16 guineas. 8. Three stops and percussion action, in rosewood, 20 guineas. 9. Eight stops, percussion action, oak or rosewood, 32 guineas. 10. Twelve stops, percussion action, in oak, 40 guineas. 11. Twelve stops, percussion action, large size, in rosewood, 45 guineas. 12. The new patent model, fifteen stops, percussion action, expressional à la main, &c., 55 guineas. 13. Small Church Harmonium, with two rows of keys, five stops, and Venetian swell, 45 guineas. 14. The Church Harmonium, with two rows of stops, twenty-two keys, and knee-swell, rosewood or polished oak case, 70 guineas. Chappell and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

ALEXANDRE'S DRAWING-ROOM MODEL HARMONIUM. the best that can be made, price 60 guineas; other varieties at 25 and 35 guineas. Illustrated catalogues of pianofortes and harmoniums upon application to CHAPPELL and CO., No. 50, New Bond-street.

PRIZE MEDAL for the NEW SIX-GUINEA HARMONIUM. by Alexandre, with five octaves, two footboards, and in oak case. These instruments are lower in price, and superior to all other cheap harmoniums. Descriptive lists on application to CHAPPELL and CO., 50, New Bond-street.

SECONDHAND HARMONIUMS by ALEXANDRE, nearly (if not quite) as good as new, at greatly-reduced prices, at CHAPPELL's, 50, New Bond-street.

PRIZE MEDAL—CHAPPELL and CO.'S ENGLISH MODEL COTTAGE PIANOFORTE.—To amateurs preferring the pure, easy tone of the Broadwood or Collard quality, the English Model will be found the most perfectly satisfactory instrument, at a moderate price. The action is of the same simple description as the above makers', and therefore especially adapted to the country, where the more complicated actions are objectionable to many of the tuners. In elegant rosewood case with full fret, similar in every respect to other instruments at 50 guineas, price 35 guineas; in walnut, 40 guineas. Chappell and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

PRIZE MEDAL for CHAPPELL'S PIANINO (35 guineas), a very elegant Pianoforte, of a small size, manufactured by Bord, the full compass, check action, and most perfect touch, admirably adapted to small rooms, yachts, boudoirs, &c. Warranted to keep in tune and to be the best and cheapest Pianoforte, with check action and all the latest improvements. Price in mahogany, rosewood, and walnut, 24, 25, and 26 guineas. A great variety may be seen at Chappell and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

SECONDHAND PIANOFORTES.—CHAPPELL and CO. have a large STOCK of SECONDHAND PIANOFORTES for SALE, by Broadwood, Collard, Erard, &c., at very reduced prices. Also, new instruments of every description—Chappell and Co., No. 50, New Bond-street.

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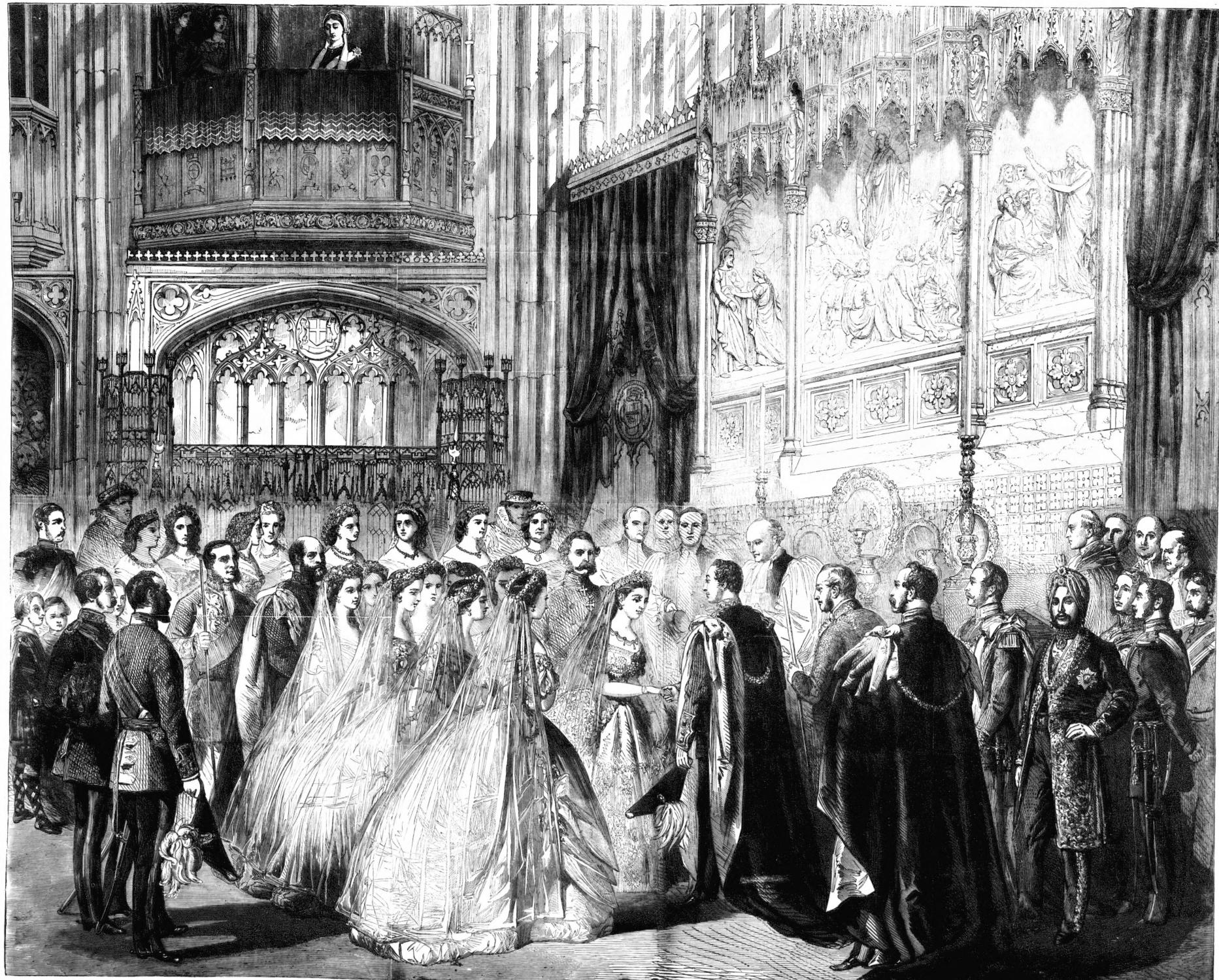
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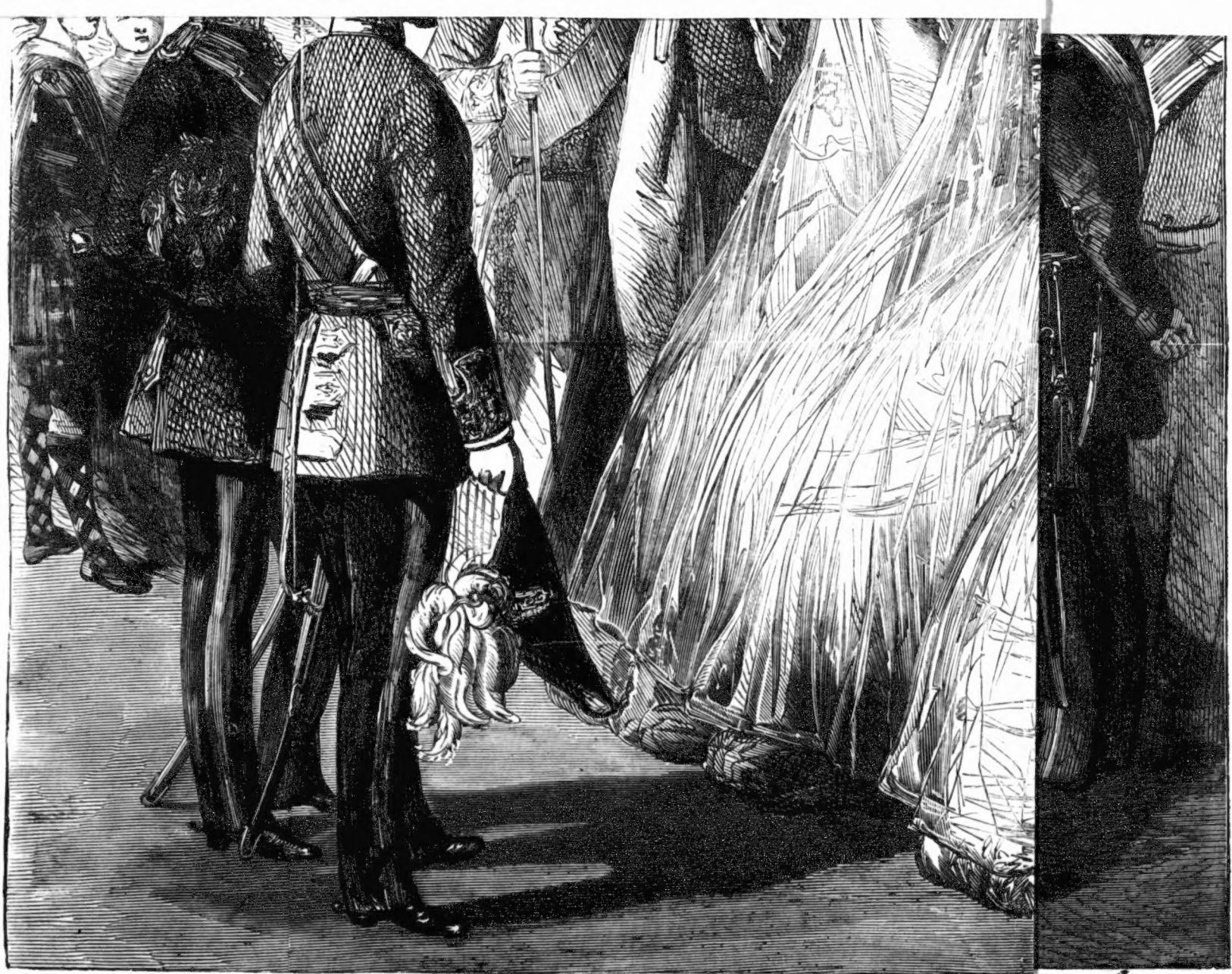
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